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In compliance with the wishes of many of our Subscribers at the out-ports we shall issue henceforth, apart from, but enclosed in, "The Japan Weekly Mail," a summary of the telegrams which have been published in the course of the current week in our Daily Edition.

MARRIAGE.

On the 30th April, at H. B. M.'s Legation, Yedo, by the Rev. W. B. Wright, M.A., THOMAS MANSON RYMER JONES, M.I.C.E., eldest son of Thomas Rymer Jones, Esq., F.R.S., F.R.C.S. of Westbourne Park, London, to MARGARET, second daughter of Henry St. John Joyner, Esq., Northwick, Harrow, England.

Notes of the Week.

SHIMADZU SABURÔ has been gazetted to the post of Sadaijin, which places him next in rank to Sanjo, the Prime Minister; Iwakura holding the third position as Udaijin. It is believed that Shimadzu Saburô favours the establishment of a representative House of Assembly, and if so, we may see some important organic changes in the machinery of government. But is not the appointment ominous and suggestive at this moment when the Japanese are almost at daggers drawn with us?

THE countering of the Formosan Expedition, the appointment of Shimadzu Saburô to the post of Sadaijin—possibly the condition on which he was induced to return from Kagoshima—and the generally unsatisfactory state of affairs, have been the main topics of gossip during the week, and it is an observable and even important fact that of the sympathy which a year ago would certainly have been shewn to the Government in its perplexities, not a trace can be found among the many whose opinions, floating here and there, go far to make up or guide what is vaguely called public opinion. So wayward, uncompliant and illiberal seem the present attitude and tone of the Japanese towards foreigners, even towards those to whom they are under the deepest obligations, so thorough is the alienation of feeling now existing between the one side and the other, that it seems as if the ghost of the old *Jo-i* party had risen again, and was animating the men whose experience should have taught them the insanity of the spirit it represented. All this is vastly to be regretted; while the serious troubles in which the Empire at this moment is plunged, the perplexity of its statesmen, and the sure loss of *prestige* which must follow the events of the past fortnight, ought to awaken suspicion in regard to the wisdom of that line of policy and general body of views now being pursued by the country.

It is difficult to know what amount of credence to give to the stories of the latest outrages alleged to have been committed by the Coreans upon the Japanese, but presuming, as we fairly may, that they are not without some real foundation, trouble of a serious nature may, perhaps we ought to say, should, spring out of them. These stories are to the effect that the Coreans have made a descent upon some of the islands belonging to Japan lying nearest to their coast, destroying the houses and villages near their landing places, and that they have beheaded eighteen Japanese sailors who were thrown defenceless on the Corean coast, for the sole reason that they were Japanese. Such acts are enough to make the

blood of the nation boil, and will assuredly do so. Hatred so remorseless and unreasonable as that in which the second of these acts must have its origin excites a corresponding feeling which assuredly will find vent in some way or another. It is intolerable that cast-away sailors should be subject to such treatment as that dealt to these poor Japanese, and though the hatred in which it has had its rise is bestowed upon only one nationality, it is almost a question how far conduct of this nature does not give such general offence to the sense of humanity in the civilized world that the affair does not remain a mere Japanese question. Still, primarily it is one for the Japanese to deal with, and it remains to be seen what steps they will take to avenge the death of these unfortunate sufferers. The difficulties and risks attending an actual invasion of Corea are very great indeed, and nothing less than the co-operation of the whole nation would suffice to find money to defray the vast expense it would entail. When people talk calmly of throwing forty thousand men into a country they recall *Punch's* picture of "How Jones took Sebastopol." It was easy for this finished strategist to spill a little of his port on the mahogany, and in two or three minutes to show how the Crimean fortress was to be taken. But poor Jones knew no more about Korniloff and Todleben than he knew of Vauban, and though not contemptible at draughts, was but a sorry authority on questions of war. Of course a force of Japanese soldiers could be moved with less expense than a body of Englishmen, who are double their size and who must have a daily issue of some twelve or fourteen different articles to eat, drink, smoke or chew. But ten thousand men would be a very small force to employ for this purpose; we doubt indeed whether any Japanese general would undertake it with less than fifteen, possibly twenty, thousand. This would demand a large fleet of transports, a vast provision of stores, material, guns, ammunition, &c. Of these Japan can hardly possess any large provision, while she must not forget that the Coreans can now supply themselves with arms of a high character to an extent utterly unknown in by-gone years.

We were in hopes that the singular revolution which has just taken place in Corea would have paved the way for the opening of the country without bloodshed. But these lately reported outrages on the Japanese, if indeed the accounts of them may be relied on, demand that steps should be taken to maintain the honour of this Empire and prevent the repetition of occurrences which are vastly discreditable to the Coreans, and to the last degree exasperating to the people of this country.

No confirmation has reached us of the many rumours which were abroad on Saturday respecting the resignation of certain members of the Cabinet. If Okuma has resigned he must have done so by telegraph. Kido has been relieved, at his own request, of his duties as one of the *Sangi*, but remains Minister of the Interior. Okubo has gone to Nagasaki.

THE following account of the last scene of the *Saga* rebellion is furnished by the *Japan Herald* :—

The names of the twelve men who were executed at *Saga* are as follows:—Eto Shimpei, Shima Yoshiwo, Nakajima Teizo, Yamanaka Ichiro, Katsuki Keguro, Shigematsu Kiyemon, Nakagawa Konomuke, Yamada Heizo, Asakura Danzo, and two others, whose names we have not obtained. Of these twelve, only the first two were punished to the extent of *Gokumon* i. e., exposure of their heads on the pillory. Shima Yoshiwo was formerly *Karo*, or chief counsellor to the Daimio of *Saga*; and later, was an official in the *Kai-taku-shi*, hold-

ing fourth rank in that department. Eto Shimpei was formerly private counsellor to the Daimio of Saga, and during the revolution was for a while Governor of Tokio; afterwards he held the office next below that of Vice-Minister of Education, and finally became Minister of Justice and Sangi. Just as he was about to be executed, while his neck was bent to the swordsman, he recited, in a clear, distinct voice, a verse of ancient poetry, not easily translatable into English, but to the effect that Heaven knew truly whether he was innocent or guilty. The verse consisted of seven syllables, but only five had been articulated when his head fell. Soyajima Kensuke is believed to be the younger brother of the late Minister of Foreign Affairs. Of Katsuki we have spoken before, though we were in error in stating that his head had been exposed. Of Asakura Danzo, it is said that he was the only one who showed the white feather before the executioner. He was also heard to say that it was a great error to consult with Eto Shimpei in such a matter, and to act as they had done. The other punishments awarded at Saga were as follows:—Six persons condemned to hard labor for ten years, nine for seven years, fifteen for five years, fifty-six for three years, and ten for two years. Eighty-three men were degraded from the samurai class, one was imprisoned for 100 days, and one for seventy days. Total, 195 persons in all who were condemned. Of the insurgents, 7,500 surrendered themselves prisoners. Between forty and fifty villages were burned. In Saga, 1,600 houses were burned, and as compensation the Government paid twenty yen to first class sufferers by fire, fifteen yen to those of the second class, and ten yen to those of the third class. Over 350 of the Imperialist troops were put *hors de combat*, of whom 100 were killed. Of the insurgents, 150 were killed, and about 250 were wounded.

A RUMOUR has found its way from Pekin to the effect that the Chinese Government are so irate at the presumption of the Japanese in sending an expedition to Formosa, that there is a probability of their making a reprisal by taking possession of the Loo Chew group of Islands! Should this determination be carried out, the Japanese will realize the truth of the saying, "going for wool and coming home shorn." It is a significant fact that the Chinese are in the market for arms, several thousand stand having been purchased in Yokohama during the last few days.—*Herald*.

The Theatre Verein of the "Club Germania" gave their sixth and last representation last night, the pieces performed being "Ein Gebildeter Barbier" and "Wer Iest Mit?"

The first of these is thus described in the synopsis attached to the programme:—

Konneberg, host of "The Hart" and mayor of the village, has a daughter, *Catherina*, in love with *Stoffel*, a courier, the son of *Ratzkopp*, the barber and advocate of the same place. *Ratzkopp*, anxious that the young people should be happy, pleads with *Konneberg* in their favour; but the latter violently objects to the humble status of the suitor for his daughter's hand. It so happens that a young artist *Ruhland*, is staying at "The Hart," and *Konneberg*, who mistakes him for a prince travelling *incognito*, and thinks he will not object to paying handsomely for his accommodation, sends him in an extortive bill which *Ruhland* declines to pay. *Ratzkopp* comes in to shave him, and, hearing of the grievance, offers his services to get the account reduced. The Court is opened and *Konneberg* appears as judge, *Ruhland* permitting his case to be brought for the mere humour of the thing, though convinced that he must necessarily lose it. But *Ratzkopp*, while vilifying the host for his extortion, and thus revenging himself for the slights put upon him when pleading for his son's union with *Catherina*, flatters the judge for his probity, and does this so adroitly and successfully that *Konneberg* not only consents to reduce the account by one half, but agrees to the marriage of the young people whose projects he had previously disconcerted.

The weight of this piece lay chiefly upon *Konneberg* and *Ratzkopp*, and the efforts of the representatives of these personages to make the most of the broad farce of the situation was eminently successful. The trial scene, with the skilful alternating flattery and inculpation of the Burgomaster-Innkeeper; his mingled delight and indignation, together with the bell-ringing and cries of "silentium"—though a parody on justice almost too broad for anything but burlesque was intensely provocative of laughter.

"Wer Iest mit?" which followed, is a dialect piece interspersed with music and of which the following is the plan:—

Guste, the honest and faithful factotum of *Dural*, a retired tradesman living on his rents, is to celebrate her master's birthday by dining with him, an event to which she has long looked forward, and an honour the prospect of which somewhat overpowers her. Just before dinner, *Appel*, an old friend of *Dural's*, arrives from the country and proposes to stay to dinner, a course which, as it would displace *Guste*, she is determined to prevent. She succeeds in getting *Appel* out of the way at the customary hour of dinner, but he returns just as her master and she have sat down to table, and she has to rise to give up her place. She is sent to the cellar to fetch some wine, but, under the pretence that she cannot find it, prevails on *Dural* to go for it, and takes the opportunity afforded by his absence to frighten *Appel* into the belief that he is mad, and liable to commit all manner of atrocities during his paroxysms, one of which she expects will seize him immediately. *Appel* wishes to rush away, but *Dural* returns before he can do so, and forces him to sit down to table. The conversation at dinner, which is suggested by the dishes, makes *Appel* think that *Dural* will cut off his ears, and he rushes off without his hat and with a silver spoon in his hand. *Dural* *Guste* again sit down. *Appel* is brought in by the police and accuses *Dural* of the intention to murder him, and *Guste*, fearful of the consequences, confesses that she laid the plot in revenge for having her place taken from her. The explanation is accepted, and *Dural*, *Appel* and herself all sit down to table in restored harmony.

This pretty little vaudeville, obviously of French origin, was very well played, and we must congratulate the *Dural*, *Appel* and *Guste* of the evening who imparted much spirit and humour to their impersonations and sang their little snatches of song with much taste and archness if with but little force.

With this performance, the sixth of the season, ends the series of the Dramatic Representations of the Theater Verein. We congratulate its members upon their good taste in their selections of plays and good judgment in assigning the parts. Our little community owes many pleasant hours of relaxation and amusement to their exertions, and the Society itself has visibly improved under the stimulus of the applause of a well-educated and discriminating audience. We have now only to add *Auf Wiedersehen!*

ROBBERIES are fearfully rife in Tokei. About ten days ago, the store of the Yorinda Company was opened most ingeniously. It was fastened by an upper and lower bolt and locked. A hole was made at each place large enough for a man to thrust in his hand, to unbolt and unlock the door. The thieves then entered and had it all their own way. They took a superb dressing case which had been got out for presentation to the Mikado, valued at \$2,000; besides a number of other things. They even took a roll of carpet; but this seems to have been too weighty or inconvenient, as the thieves dropped it in front of the next house.—*Gazette*.

WE publish this week a short epitome of the events recorded in the Official Gazette for the month of March, and shall endeavour to maintain the series regularly, procuring it somewhat sooner after the occurrence of such events than on this occasion.

The interest of this record cannot be great, because the more important events are always made known before the record of them appears in this form. But it promises to be of some value for reference, and may at times throw light upon affairs not commonly brought to the notice of foreigners.

WE are desirous of correcting a slight error which crept into our late review of "New Japan." It was there stated that "The Shōgun Iyemochi was the son of Yoshitomi, thirteenth prince of Kishiu." He was, however, himself thirteenth prince of Kishiu, and his name was changed to Iyemochi when he was elevated to the Shōgunate.

A meeting of the Amateur Athletic Association was held at Rooms of the Society on Tuesday afternoon with the view of ascertaining the feeling of the Members as to the desirability of obtaining an allotment of space in the contemplated Public Gardens in the Swainp. It had been ascertained, however, that no building would be permitted by the Government upon the proposed new ground. The Committee hoped by the

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saving of rent and from other sources to recoup the Society for the loss of the admission money paid hitherto by the Public. After some discussion it was resolved to make application for a path round the cricket field, while a motion to apply for permission to erect a permanent building for the use of the Association was lost.

WE learn from private advices received by the *Great Republic* that the teas shipped hence by the *Vasco de Gama* which sailed on the 21st January were delivered in New York on the 28th of February, fifteen days after being despatched from San Francisco.

HALF-HOUR guns were fired from the *Hartford*, and the flags of the men-of-war in harbour hoisted at half-mast this morning, in respect to the memory of Ex-President Fillmore and Senator Charles Sumner, news of whose decease reached Yokohama by the last American mail.

THE anniversary of the birthday of the Emperor of Russia was celebrated by the men-of-war in the port in the usual manner on Wednesday.

A German vessel which arrived on Thursday from Formosa reports that the Chinese have thrown 9,000 troops upon the Island within a very recent period.

THE Shanghai papers announced that Madame Arabella Goddard proposed to visit Japan after concluding her series of Concerts at Shanghai. We observe, however, with regret that Madame Goddard leaves for Hongkong by the *Anadyr*, whence after a short stay she will go to the Philippines and afterwards to America, in pursuance of her world tour.

IN the case of *Weintraub v. Oriental Bank* heard yesterday before Mr. Assistant Judge Goodwin in Chambers, His Honour decided that he would discharge the order as to particulars of demand and ruled that the answer should be filed within four days. The question of costs was reserved.

OTTO SEYD, brought up yesterday at the German Consulate on a charge of fraudulent bankruptcy, after the hearing of the evidence, was sentenced to three years' incarceration. Owing to the time he has already been imprisoned, due to certain technicalities, the term inflicted will expire about July next.—*Herald*.

MR. BOURNE'S house, No. 31 Bluff, at present under repair, was entered by thieves yesterday morning. They tied up the cook and wounded his wife: alarmed, however, at her cries they ran away without apparently removing any of their plunder.

THE Peninsular and Oriental steamer *Bombay* which sailed for Hongkong on Wednesday morning took 210 bales Silk for Europe.

FURTHER instalments of \$125,000 of the Shimonoseki Indemnity have been paid to the Representatives of England, France and Holland.

IT has been stated that fifty-two students were admitted to the Ko Gaku Rio (Engineering College) after the late examinations.

THE rumours of fresh outrages committed by the Coreans must be received with great caution, as they have certainly come through channels constantly duped on this and other important matters. These rumours were much abroad yesterday, but they demand confirmation.

SHIPPIERS OF SILK.

Per S. S. *Bombay*, despatched 29th April, 1874.

				England.	France.	Italy.
Kniffler & Co. ...	...	...	...	15	—	—
Dell'Oro & Co. ...	...	...	...	5	—	—
Raud & Co. ...	...	...	...	8	29	—
Cornes & Co. ...	...	...	...	13	—	—
Wilkin and Robison ...	...	...	...	10	—	—
Bavier & Co. ...	...	...	...	11	—	—
Bolmida ...	...	...	...	18	28	—
Ziegler & Co. ...	...	...	...	—	—	10
Sundries ...	...	...	...	63	—	—
				143	57	10
			Total Silk...	...	210 bales.	

THE following cargo was taken by the *Japan* for San Francisco:—

		TEA.			
From	S. F.	N. Y.	Bost.	Mont.	Tor. Total.
Shanghai...	...	—	—	1448	— 1,448
Nagasaki...	...	—	—	—	814
Hiogo ...	...	814	—	—	—
Yokohama ...	2630	1873	156	1209	414 5,788
Hongkong ...	...	814	—	—	—
	Total ...	2,636	2,001	156 2,652	414 7,859
		SILK.			
From		N. Y.	S. F.	C. & S. A.	Total.
Shanghai...	...	919	28	—	949
Hongkong ...	...	89	62	80	181
Yokohama ...	...	26	—	—	26
	Total ...	944	86	80	899

YOKOHAMA GENERAL HOSPITAL.

PATIENTS TREATED DURING APRIL, 1874.

Class of Patients.	Remained March 31st	Admitted.	Discharged.	Died.	Remained April 30th	Total Treated.
1st	0	1	1	0	0	1
2nd	1	2	2	0	1	3
3rd	7	2	2	0	7	9
4th	1	1	2	0	0	2
Charity	1	1	0	0	2	2
Total	10	7	7	0	10	17

IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS.

YOKOHAMA STATION.

28th April, 1874.

Statement of Traffic Receipts for the week ending Sunday 26th April, 1874.

Passengers..... 33,932. Amount..... \$9,582.07
Goods, Parcels, &c..... 584.85

Total..... \$10,166.92

Average per mile per week \$564.83.

Miles open, 18.

Corresponding week 1873.

Number of Passengers, 37,212. Amount \$10,898.36.

REPRESENTATIVE INSTITUTIONS—THE REPLY OF SOYEJIMA, GÔTO SHÔJIRO AND ITAGAKI.

THE topics which last week extorted the close attention of every one interested in the fortunes of this country were so absorbing, that it was almost impossible to find time to discuss the large question underlying the reply, published in our issue of last Saturday, of SOYEJIMA, GÔTO SHÔJIRO and ITAGAKI to the Memorial addressed to them on the 26th of January last by KATO HIROYUKI, and published by us on the 14th February, on the establishment of Representative Institutions in this country. Before entering upon the discussion of this Reply—a task which no foreigner can attack without feeling very deeply his ignorance of the machinery by means of which the Government of this country is carried

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on—we shall be pardoned for making a short *epitome* of the document which has called it forth.

KATO HIROYUKI first argues that though the development of public discussion is in the highest degree important, the civilization of this country is at present so backward that such discussion could only be fruitless. Referring to the Parliament of England, he says that its successes may be traced to the fact that it contains a large proportion of men whose accurate knowledge of the antecedents and present condition of the country enable them to judge what laws are well suited, and will be acceptable, to it. He thinks that such men are not to be found in Japan, or, at least, not in sufficient numbers. Referring to the history of Prussia, he shows how FREDERICK THE GREAT, though the father of reform in Europe, (it is quite clear that he has paid little attention to English history), and the author of many restrictions upon the royal prerogative, yet retained to the last the powers of government in his own hands, and exercised an absolute authority throughout his dominions, for the sole reason that he did not consider his people sufficiently advanced to admit of their being entrusted with a share in the government. He adduces Russia as another instance of a great nation without a national assembly, and argues that if the Russians have not been thought fit to take a share in the conduct of their own affairs, how much less so are the Japanese. He proceeds to show the deep ignorance of the mass of the people in this country, and argues that the certain fruit of their discussion would be a flow of visionary and foolish ideas, and the probable fruit great danger to the public peace and prosperity. He says the best European authorities agree that while Representative Institutions are absolutely required by states in a high condition of civilization, they are most dangerous in less advanced states; and that though such Institutions are admirable means of advancing the condition of a nation, the application of them to states in an unsuitable condition of development would be the certain means of arresting progress. He proceeds to say that the number of men of distinguished ability in this empire is extremely small, and that without supposing the members of the Government are arrogant and self-conceited, they still feel themselves compelled to undertake the whole management of affairs. He thinks that the proper mode of bringing the people forward is by educating them well, and adduces the present condition of Prussia as a proof of the efficacy of this policy. He concludes by saying that the Japanese reformers have been accused of "rash progression," and thinks that this proposed establishment of Representative Institutions would lay them open to fresh reproach on this account. In a postscript he says he would be pleased to see such Institutions in this country, could be only persuade himself that the condition of the nation warranted it. But he again maintains the position that he would retain the power in hands of the Government, while extending as far as possible the rights of the people, encouraging liberty of speech, and promoting education. Finally he asks the opinion of those he addresses upon the establishment of local assemblies in the *Fu* and *Ken* for the discussion of public affairs, the recorded decisions upon which should be referred to the Chiji or Kenrei before action could be taken upon them.

In reply to these arguments, SOYEJIMA, GOTO SHOJIRO and ITAGAKI—the absence of YETO's name here recalls his sad fate—send the reply published last week, which may be shortly epitomized as follows.

They argue that the establishment of the reformed

government was the work of the lower *samurai* and the richer farmers and merchants, whose ranks produced the leaders of the Revolution. That the oath taken by the THE MIKADO on his assumption of the government bound him to permit the free discussion of public affairs by the Councillors sent up by the various clans as the representatives of their views and wishes, and that the action of the Government should be decided by this; that the Government as at present constituted is an oligarchy, and therefore does not represent the views of the people; that the establishment of a Council-Chamber is the legitimate, and, indeed, necessary, completion of the work of the Revolution, and that the cases of Prussia and Russia, when more closely examined, cannot be consistently pressed as arguments against the formation of such a Chamber. In reply to the argument that the people are not yet in a sufficiently advanced condition to warrant such an institution, it is said that their special disqualifying defects, their submissiveness and want of enterprise, would disappear were this concession made: that their patriotism, now undeveloped, would grow in force, and that they have passed that stage or national condition in which all that they require is a mere Government of guidance. They do not propose to give an universal suffrage, but to restrict the franchise, at least at first, to the *samurai*, the richer farmers and merchants, who, as before said, were the real leaders of the Revolution. They argue that the state of the national mind fulfills the conditions laid down by MR. MILL as necessary antecedents to the establishment of Representative Institutions, and that the tendencies of the national mind, now scattered and inoperative, should be brought into a focus by these means. They proceed to combat the idea that a Council-chamber would produce nothing but a succession of stupid and visionary views, and, in answer to the position of their adversary that the education of the people is the great remedy for present evils, they urge that no education would promote the increase of knowledge and intelligence, and develop the mental faculties of the people, so rapidly and usefully as permitting them to take a share in the management of the national affairs, calling in MR. MILL again in support of this position. The reply closes with one of those courteous tributes to the intelligence of their adversary, which, if they do not mean very much, are a marked and pleasing features of such controversies among the Japanese.

Now, our readers must be aware that we have not only expressed an opinion in favour of the Institutions for this country for which the writers of this Reply plead, but we have gone so far as to give a sketch* of the form the two chambers should take, and we need hardly say that this sketch was the result of much conversation on the subject with intelligent Japanese who had given the question very long and serious consideration. It is true that when the Memorial of SOYEJIMA and others appeared, we, without departing from our original position, criticized it unfavourably, but on the sole ground that while the necessity for Representative Institutions was warmly urged, there was a total absence of all practical detail in regard to the manner in which they should be constructed, not a word said of the proposed extent of their authority, or of their relations to the Throne on the one side, or the people on the other. And not only this. These questions were specially excluded on the ground of want of space; and we thought, and still think, that more attention should have been given to such details. The argument of KATO HIROYUKI and the Reply now under consideration,

* *Japan Weekly Mail*, 20th December, 1873.

however, do not go beyond the question of the fitness of the nation for Representative Institutions, and in this, not only do we side on general grounds with the authors of the *Reply*, but it appears to us that they fully prove their points ~~as~~ against their adversary. If, as seems to be conceded on all hands, the late Revolution was the work of the people, and not of the upper classes, it is idle to suppose that there does not exist an abundance of material out of which a very intelligent Lower Chamber might be formed ; and if, as cannot be gainsaid, the oath taken by the MIKADO on the Restoration binds him to act only in conformity with the wishes of the people, as expressed by the representatives of the clans, we have arguments of a most weighty nature for the establishment of Representative Institutions. At the same time it may legitimately be inferred that the ideas of the reformers, when they imposed an oath upon the Sovereign at his restoration, were rather those of men who had got them from books, or from conversation with foreigners, than of men who felt their own power, and were determined that the people should actually take a share in the management of their national affairs. Else, what has become of the oath ? why was the Sovereign not forced to keep it ? and why the existence of the oligarchy, which, in a manner which we defy any foreigner to understand, and with internal permutations which are like nothing so much as the observed changes in distant nebulous matter, has governed the country since the Restoration ? We greatly distrust the system into which the Japanese seem so easily to fall, that of getting up subjects from books and then applying the ideas so acquired to their own condition. While every credit must be given them for translating MILL's *Representative Government*, for studying it, and for applying its teaching to their own affairs, it is clear to us that in the very *Reply* now under consideration, where large use is made of MILL, there is nothing so cogent as the facts relating to the origin of the Revolution, the class of men who carried it, and the references made from the personal experience of the writers to the condition of the national mind. A good old English proverb says "An ounce of mother-wit is worth a pound of doctor." These quotations from MILL are excellent and apposite, as are the references to FREDERICK THE GREAT, but they are apt to recall Molière's doctors, who quote Hippocrates to prove and justify two very opposite positions. The one says :—

Si vous ne faites pas saigner votre fille, c'est une personne morte.

To which the other rejoins :—

Si vous la faites saigner, elle ne sera pas en vie dans un quart d'heure.

Or these long quotations remind us of the interminable *thesis* young Diafoirus pulls out of his pocket when the real questions in hand were,—What is the disease ? and what the true remedy ? As it is, however, far from our wish to make merry over two serious arguments—even were there ground for this, which we are far from thinking—we would say that these quotations, and the habit of resorting to books for passages to prove any given position, is a very dangerous one. The value of a book almost entirely depends on the condition of the mind to which it appeals. The tendency to read up a subject without reading *up to* that subject, is the natural temptation of intelligent men brought face to face with new questions. They are ready with chapter and verse on various points, and show that they have worked at the book they quote. But what a practical statesman does, is, to throw away all books on such subjects, and treat the case empirically on such knowledge as he possesses of the disease as revealed by the symptoms. He says : Is there dissatisfaction among the people ? Whence does it

arise ? Is there sufficient evidence that they really want to take a share in the management of the national affairs, and that it would be dangerous to withhold this ? Is there a stratum of solid weighty opinion unrepresented or disregarded ? Can it be made of value in the national councils by the means proposed ? Looking to the antecedent condition of the people and their relations to the Government, is it possible, and would it be wise, to entrust to them a share of actual power ? These are the questions which a practical statesman would ask, and though he might bring his reading to bear on the subject, he would show, not so much that he had read MILL, and even read *up to* Mill as well, as that his greatest study had been bestowed upon the nation for whose benefit he was seeking to make a change so organic and momentous.

It would be unjust, however, to withhold from the authors of the *Reply* a tribute to its merit. It takes a very fair survey of the facts ; it argues very directly upon those facts,—though, by the way, there is in the early part of it one of those circular processes of reasoning which are so common in Japanese pleadings, and which seem to show that of logic, as a science, they have little conception—it is moderate, careful and courteous, and is certainly an interesting contribution to the passing literature of the question.

THE GOVERNMENT AND THE FOREIGN PRESS.

WE took occasion some time ago to remark upon the very anomalous part played in this country by the Foreign Press of the open ports, and the subject is brought home so forcibly to us at this moment, that we shall make no apology for saying a few more words on it, in special connection with the Expedition which has formed the almost exclusive subject of discussion during the past fortnight.

In order to illustrate our remarks, and possibly to render them more interesting to our readers, let us imagine a colony of Japanese, Chinese and Coreans settled at Gravesend, and though maintaining themselves in more or less of isolation from the surrounding people, yet mixing with them for the commercial purposes which are the objects of their residence. Let us also imagine that some of the aliens are in the employment of the British Government, of whose proceedings they are more or less cognizant, and that there is a constant inter-communication of ideas between these employés and the commercial residents. By a great stretch of the imagination we will try to suppose that the English have no Press, while the aliens have an unbounded freedom of expressing their opinions, and ceaselessly criticize the acts of the Government whose protection they are enjoying. Imagine further that the laws, religion, customs and manners of the two differ in almost every conceivable particular, and that the civilization of each is so crystallized and so well defined, that the difficulties of accurate mutual comprehension are vast if not insuperable. Imagine, further, that a body of translators is ready to convert every word written by the aliens into the language of those who are administering the government of the country, and that the matter thus translated, which must often be almost unintelligible from the radical divergence between the ideas of those who write and those for whom the translations are made,—a difficulty, by the way, which presses gravely on the translators, be they never so good—is placed before the Government day by day, sometimes exciting ridicule from its excessive ignorance ; sometimes irritation from its deliberate or careless falsification of facts ; and at all times

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inclined rather to take exception to what is done amiss, than to appreciate and do justice to that which is done wisely. Imagine, too, that these free comments reach other ears than those of the Government, and that men accustomed to converse upon the acts of their rulers under their breath, and with recollections perhaps of having been once surrounded by spies, hear those acts discussed without one vestige of fear or any cause for it. And, lastly, that the Government knows that these free and often unjust criticisms are being diffused among the people,—little by little, indeed, yet forming a distinct, traceable and measureable deposit in their minds.

Now, without overrating the influence of the foreign Press in this country, it must be acknowledged that, in as far as it certainly reflects to a greater or less extent the views of the resident foreigners generally, each section of society, roughly speaking, being more or less represented by a corresponding section of the Press, it must be confessed that the play of this constant stream of criticism must be galling and embarrassing in a high degree to men wholly unaccustomed to have their acts discussed to their faces, and never to have them disputed. The Japanese do not even affect to disregard the opinions formed of them by foreign nations, and knowing that this local foreign Press represents the views formed by foreigners here, and is calculated to mould opinion at home upon the Japanese character and affairs, it is not unnatural that they should be more or less sensitive to its remarks, and, at times, swayed by its reflections, remonstrances or censure. That there is any such corresponding sense of responsibility in the various foreign papers in Japan, or any adequate consideration of the feelings of the Japanese in dealing censure or ridicule against the acts of their Government, cannot be pretended and can hardly be expected. The conversation of foreigners when turned upon these acts nearly always takes the form of censure or ridicule, and this often without adequate knowledge or consideration of the circumstances of the case; though it may be said that this is equally so at home. Little allowance is made for trying, unknown, or exceptional conjunctures, for the difficulties with which the Government has to contend, or for the dense mass of ignorance out of which it has to draw the people before the one can share in the aspirations of the other. The perplexity arising from contrary counsels,—the specious, superficial arguments on one side appearing as sound as the wiser, but perhaps less seductive, reasons on the other—is little taken into account by foreign critics; and though the Press may not, on the whole, unfairly reflect the opinions of foreigners here, there can be small question that its perpetual criticism must be extremely galling and harrassing to the Japanese. Nor is it our intention to deprecate this criticism, though we could often wish it were more considerate, just and well-mannered. It is the condition of affairs in which we live, and it would be as reasonable and practical for us to object to the constitution of the air we are forced to breathe, as for the Japanese to object to this constant stream of criticism. The great art seems to us—and it is needless to say that this lesson is wholly intended for the Japanese—to estimate as fairly and accurately what amount of truth or wholesome advice it contains and turn these to account. Great as may be the ignorance foreign writers must constantly display in treating Japanese subjects—an ignorance which, for our own part, we frankly admit and sincerely deplore, and our only excuse for which is that real pains are taken to inform ourselves before writing at least of all accessible facts on the subjects treated,—they do still reflect a considerable amount

of fairly intelligent opinion, gathered often from many sources, and embodying, by a process of selection almost unconsciously performed, the best of this opinion. The colour, the dress, and the temper of the writing are affairs of the writer's own mind; but beyond this his views are quite as much absorbed from others as produced by his own thought. Whatever may be effect of these upon the mind of the Japanese, they can hardly overrate the value of this constant censorship. It is often hasty and spleenetic, and its effects are often much more transient than they imagine; but whereas they cannot abolish it, so, if they are wise, they will learn that they cannot dispense with it. As we said before, the position of the Press here is undoubtedly very anomalous, and, so far as we know, quite exceptional. The foreign Press of China bears some analogy to it, but it is published so far from the seat of the central Government, and the Chinese are so utterly insensible to what foreigners say or think about them, that the analogy is in reality little more than a nominal one.

THE DAILY PRESS ON JAPAN.

IF the Press of the East is not always amusing by reason of its wit, it is so at times by reason of its mistakes. A curious instance of this occurred here last week, and as it is calculated to mislead, and even to produce undesirable consequences, we take an opportunity of calling attention to and correcting it. In our issue of the 28th March we published a paper entitled "Regulations for Interior, First Draft for Consideration," which formed the text of a leading article headed "The *Bulletin* on Japanese Affairs," dealing chiefly with the extra-territorial jurisdiction question, which is, of course, bound up with the acceptance or rejection of those Regulations. The paper appeared on the following Monday in the *Japan Gazette*, with the customary acknowledgement of its source, but unaccompanied by any comment from which its actual origin could be inferred. In this condition the "Regulations" fell into the hands of the *Hongkong Daily Press*, and immediately became the text of a leading article highly eulogistic of the progress made by this country, and of the statesmanlike wisdom with which every problem was solved by the Japanese as it arose. Of course, the *motivi* of the overture were the railway and telegraph; then came law reform; then the astonishing statement that "a representative system likely fully to meet the requirements of the people at large has been established;" and, finally, the equally astonishing information that "in all directions Japanese has markedly improved her commercial and political relations with foreign nations." On these premisses the progressive spirit of Japan is contrasted with "the feebleness and retrogressiveness" of China, and the disposition of the one country to forsake, and of the other to maintain, the old attitude of stupid conservatism, is insisted upon with the customary illustrations and reflections. And when the writer in the *Daily Press* approaches these "Regulations," he expatiates upon their wisdom, the statesmanlike aptitude they exhibit, their simplicity, and their admirable adaptation to the ends in view. And, indeed, without for a moment wishing to flatter the framers of the Regulations, we think they deserve much of this praise. Many foreigners might, and doubtless do, imagine that they are too moderate, and are hardly calculated to be of any real service in paving the way for the future opening of the country. But impartial judges, desirous of improving, yet not straining, the relations now existing between the Japanese and ourselves, will, we think, concede that, since

it is avowedly impossible to abandon the extra-territoriality jurisdiction clauses in the present treaties, the guarantees offered to the Japanese by these Regulations for the good behaviour of foreigners admitted into the country are as ample as the most timid administrator could demand.

But, alas! all this pretty praise is just now entirely ill-bestowed. After four years of very poor work and cruel prodigality we have twenty miles of railway open, and twenty-five more the opening of which seems to hang fire most lamentably. We have a telegraph system of some extent which is perpetually breaking down. There has been some legal reform which does the Government much credit for the spirit it evinces. But the representative system exists only in the columns of the *Japan Gazette*—there is hardly a shadow of it any where else; the alleged marked improvement in the commercial and political relations of Japan with foreign nations is so far imaginary that they are now simply in the very worst possible condition; while, to crown this series of very unpardonable mistakes, the Regulations which the *Daily Press* so belauds are so far from being the fruit of Japanese statesmanship that they were drawn up by the Foreign Representatives, and though they were laid before the Japanese Foreign Ministers in October last, and were only offered for consideration, not one word has been heard regarding them from that day to this. Shortly, the article is a tissue of blunders from one end to the other, utterly misleading to the Public, and calculated to produce the worst possible reflex effect in this country, by persuading the Japanese that they are greatly superior to the Chinese, that foreigners enjoy greater liberty here, and that trade is more free in Japan, than in China. The reverse of all this is the case. The people of China enjoy far greater freedom than the people of this country. Whatever may be the faults of the mandarinate, and they are many, the ubiquitous and meddling hand of the official in this country is a burden far heavier than any which the Chinese have to bear, and consequently we witness in one country the steady expansion of a vigorous trade, while, in the other, stagnation if not retrogression are the order of the day. While the foreigner can travel through the length and breadth of China with a passport which his Consul will give him at once on application, he will be arrested in Japan if he passes beyond the 25 *ri* limit. In short, it is impossible to conceive a more wholesale misrepresentation of the aspect of affairs in this country at the present moment than that made in the article under notice.

We are sadly afraid that the *Daily Press* takes its inspirations from the large capitals of the *Gazette*, which has lately announced the advent of a millennium guaranteed by the House of Assembly to which THE MIKADO had given his sanction, and which put forth the "declaration of war against Formosa" in the same exaggerated manner. Unless people will go to the only real source of information in regard to the condition and movements of this country—a source which modesty forbids our naming—it is perhaps better to go to the *Gazette* than elsewhere. The criticism which simply consists in standing in the mud and throwing handfuls of it at Japan is one which may suit the antecedents of those who have passed their lives in this uncleanly surrounding, but the Public soon rates it at its real value, and no one envies the casual half-pence which reward this noisome activity. But between the extreme looseness on the one side, and the persistent malignity on the other, with which the affairs of this country are treated by those whose duty it should be to report them truly and criticize them in a

spirit of impartial justice, great mischief is and has been done, and we take this opportunity of calling attention to it. At the same time it is well that the present condition of affairs in this country should be accurately stated, in order that on the one hand the misleading criticisms we have above exposed should be corrected and the tendency they possess to do great mischief here should be neutralized; while, on the other, the Japanese should be accurately informed of the estimates formed by Europeans here and abroad of their present condition and attitude.

Japan, then, is at this moment as completely out of joint as regards her own internal affairs as she is rigid, uncompliant and illiberal as regards her external relations. The policy of her statesmen during the past six months has alienated the friendly regard of foreigners in a marked degree, and she is rapidly losing the sympathy of those whose good word and friendly action are of high value to her. A feeling of great disappointment is beginning to rise among all intelligent people in regard to the country, and this is very freely expressed in Europe in all circles. The early curiosity concerning the country has been satisfied, at least for the moment; the sympathy felt for the nation in the travail of a revolution has subsided now that there is nothing to evoke it; and the world is looking for some fruits from the engraving of the vigorous branches of Western civilization upon the old national stem. But Europe is growing very impatient, and naturally so. There are a few blossoms to be seen, but even these seem so weak as to be liable to fall under the present frost. Japan pays liberally for advice, but is utterly unwilling to take it unless it agrees with her humour, in which case it might well be dispensed with. She adorns with high official rank, or rewards with ample promises, the irresponsible advisers of, or assistants in, expeditions so nearly resembling the filibustering enterprises of the darker portions of Western history that the interpreters of international law see but slight differences between the one and the other; while she refuses to listen to those whom she has actually engaged to teach that which she most desires to know and yet refuses to learn. She has often been deluded, it is true, and it is hardly to be wondered at that she is bitter against those whom she naturally associates with the squandering of her treasure and the present perplexities in which she is plunged. But she seems organically unable to discriminate between good and bad counsel, and this seems to lie at the root of half her troubles.

Much mischief has been wrought by the sentimental weakness which has persuaded her that she is oppressed and will be despoiled by those whose best interests are concerned in her unity, prosperity and strength, and all whose endeavours would tend to produce these results. All trace of generous or liberal spirit in her foreign policy has disappeared, while suspicion and narrowness of view are now its marked characteristics. The praise lavished on her for a ready and intelligent acceptance of the ideas of the Western world is now being greatly qualified by all intelligent and even friendly critics, who say that it is due to little more than the spirit of imitation. Now that the actual hard work has to be done of assimilating these ideas to that changed condition of the country which they have helped to produce, this work, which ministers to no vanity, makes no show and attracts no attention, is pursued in an indolent and superficial manner which bodes no good for the future. The ideas of foreigners are "bolted" and remain undigested, causing a distress indicative of their unsuitableness to the powers of those who have swallowed them whole. So long as the interest of novelty was maintained, and the intoxicating

effect of praise stimulated constantly renewed efforts to extort fresh draughts of it ; so long as an edict could be written which caused the world to wonder at the enlightenment and liberality it evinced, wholly apart from all question of the strength of will necessary to make it operative and conducive to a higher condition of the national life ; so long as the acceptance of the new civilization was attended with the satisfaction given by a new and savoury dish, or the transient pleasure derivable from a change of costume ; so long were the Japanese compliant and even ardent in the cause of reform. But this stage of things has passed, and the reduction to practical working of all the fine ideas of the West is the business of the present. And what is the one universal cry among the foreign servants of the Government, whether miners, engineers, teachers or what not ? That the Japanese will not take the pains necessary to master the details and grasp the principles of the matters they take in hand. So long as a showy result is to be produced they are to be found to the front, desirous of participating in such glory or praise as such results may extort. But of the qualities which have made the Western nations great, of the patience, the energy, the tenacity of purpose, the courage and resolution, by means of which their steady advance has been made, they have as yet given small evidence.

Such is the universal opinion at the present moment, and it makes sober men despair of the permanence of those efforts the initiatory section of which foreigners have witnessed in this country. If the lessons taught by this opinion are laid to heart, the unpalatable truths we have now told may work some good for Japan. But it is through the Press alone that they can hear them, and, however painful the duty may be of conveying and insisting on them, this duty must be faced and discharged.

THE DISCOVERY OF JAPAN AND THE INTRODUCTION OF CHRISTIANITY.

(Continued.)

Pinto himself gives the following account of his first visit to Japan. Having been obliged to seek refuge on board of a Chinese junk, commanded by a well known pirate of the name of Samipochicka, they were attacked by some other pirate and driven off the coast of China. Having been assailed by a violent storm they attempted to run for the Liu-kin Islands, but their pilot having been killed in the previous engagement they were unable to land and had to take to the high sea again ; when, after having been driven about for twenty-three days, they sighted land at last and found shelter in a bay of the small island of Tane-gasima, on the south point of Kiusiu. Being well received by the authorities as well as by the inhabitants, a brisk trade sprang up between the adventurers and the Japanese, the chief attraction however being the arquebuses with which Pinto and his two companions were armed. The news of the arrival of the marvellous strangers having reached the King of Bungo, this prince sent for one of the strangers, and Pinto, being of a lively and amiable disposition, was selected to perform this visit. He reached Fuchen, the capital of Bungo, after a voyage of some days, and here again at the court of the Prince his arquebuse attracted the general attention. After several adventures Pinto was sent back to his companions loaded with presents, and they all returned to Qiampoo (probably Ningpo).

The news of the newly discovered advantageous market, (Pinto relates that Samipochicka gained twelve hundred per cent on his cargo,) soon drew large numbers of Portuguese adventurers to Japan and they were received with open arms. Each one of the small sovereigns of the island of Kiusiu and the western part of Nippon vied with the other in trying to attract the foreign commerce to the ports in his dominions : the gain these chieftains struggled for represented to them if not independence and power, at least the means to fight for them. With the merchant came the missionary ; in these centuries of great discoveries

commerce, piracy, war and religion were closely united ; the sword and the cross went together, and the instances when the one worked for the other are unhappily only too numerous. In Japan, however, the first preacher of the Christian faith was one of those rare examples of purity and abnegation who command the respect and the sympathy of every one even after centuries have passed over their graves. It was in 1549 that Franciscus Xavier reached Kagosima in company with another Jesuit, Baltazar de Torres, and of two Japanese, one of whom, Handjiro, was of noble birth and had been obliged to flee from Japan on account of a homicide committed by him. The Prince of Satsuma, however, irritated by the fact that during the last year the Portuguese ships had not visited his ports, proved very little favourable to the new doctrine. Xavier had to leave Kagosima, but he found a friendly reception in the provinces of Nagato and Bungo ; a visit to Kioto proved of little avail, this capital being then the scene of civil war. Xavier left Japan in 1551 to recruit in India new missionaries for Japan, but he died on his way thither. Others, however, took his place, and their progress was so rapid that in 1564 seven churches and chapels existed in the suburbs of Kioto, while numerous smaller or larger Christian communities had sprung up, especially in the south-west of Japan. The reasons of this extraordinary success can hardly be doubtful. The two religions then known in Japan offered little or nothing to their adherents which could assist them in bearing the miseries and dangers which centuries of civil war had heaped especially on the lower classes of the population. Shintoism had sunk to a myth, known by few and understood by none. Buddhism had long ago lost its vivifying force, and replaced it by the doctrine that it was only through the merits of the priest's deeds and prayers that salvation could be obtained. But while it could do nothing to exalt the souls of its adherents, it had accustomed them to a great splendour in the performance of public worship, and to the enjoyment and relaxation of numerous saints' and holy days. Thus it can excite no wonder that thousands flocked to the Christian missionaries to be baptised. The religion which was preached to them was essentially adapted for the poorer and lower classes ; it gave them after death that paradise which Buddhism only promised after many a transformation, and by a judicious use of rich dresses and impressive ceremonies, brilliant processions and mysteries, in which the neophytes themselves took a part, the missionaries beat the Buddhists even on their own field with their own weapons. This rapid progress, however, could not take place without giving rise to many and serious complications in which justice and right were not always on the side of the Christians. In Kiusiu, and especially in the provinces of Bungo, Arima and Omura, where the princes themselves had become Christians, the work of conversion was carried on by fire and sword as much as by preaching, the native bonzes were exiled and often killed, and it happened more than once that the inhabitants of whole districts were ordered to convert themselves to the new religion or to leave the homes of their fathers and go into banishment. Every thing, however, seemed to be favourable to the still further propagation of the new faith. Nobunaga, then at the height of his power, openly persecuted the bonzes and as openly favoured the Christians, whose number was given in 1581 as over one hundred thousand, and in the same year the three Christian princes of Kiusiu sent an embassy to Europe to declare themselves the vassals of the Holy See.

In 1582 Nobunaga died. His successor, Hideyoshi, (Taicosamma) proved at first not unfavourable to the Christian religion ; but very soon, most probably with a view of conciliating the Buddhist priesthood and gaining their support in the struggle for supremacy, he changed his policy and issued in 1587 a decree of banishment against the foreign missionaries. This order, however, remained at first a dead letter ; the Jesuits closed their churches and chapels and ceased to preach in public, but in reality the work of conversion was so little interrupted, that according to the reports of the missionaries themselves 30,000 Japanese were baptized within the three years following the decree of expulsion. Hideyoshi himself appeared satisfied with the outward show of obedience his orders had obtained. He was afraid, perhaps, of losing his share of the profits the then rulers of Japan derived

from the foreign commerce, and it may also have been important for him to conciliate the Christian princes of Kinsiu and not to drive them to open resistance. The action, however, of the Spanish mendicant friars, who came in large numbers from the Philippine Islands and openly braved the Japanese laws by wearing their ecclesiastical garb and preaching in public, brought matters to a crisis, the decree of expulsion was renewed, some chapels and houses belonging to the missionaries were destroyed, and finally in 1596, six Franciscan, three Jesuits and seventeen Japanese converts were seized, carried to Nagasaki and there crucified.

After this fierce explosion of Hideyoshi's displeasure, affairs took a better turn. The Jesuits, faithful to their old policy of non-resistance, continued to reside in the country and even to have personal friendly intercourse with Hideyoshi. They pretended that it had only been through an excess of zeal on the part of subordinate Japanese officials, and contrary to Hideyoshi's wishes, that the three Jesuits had suffered martyrdom in 1596; and that the decrees of expulsion had been only directed against the Spanish mendicant friars, who had rendered themselves obnoxious by their open resistance to Hideyoshi's orders, and by their close alliance with the Spaniards, who were suspected of political designs against the independence of Japan.

The death of Taikosamma in 1598 also appeared to be favourable to the interest of the missionaries. Ieyasu, the most powerful of those chiefs who were struggling for the supreme power, could afford neither to lose the profits accruing from the foreign trade nor to make enemies of the Christian princes and populations. He tried to propitiate the one by showing himself extremely friendly to the missionaries, and to augment the other by inviting the Spanish friars to help him in establishing a direct commerce between the Philippine islands and his own dominions, the Kwanto. But soon difficulties arose. The princes of Kinsiu began to persecute their Christian subjects in order to force them to renounce their faith, and the determined resistance these latter showed to the wishes and orders of their rulers proved such a new and dangerous feature in the political life of the country, in which the part of the lower classes had always been one of passive obedience and slavish submissiveness. Ieyasu became alarmed and found it necessary to take steps in order to quell this dangerous spirit of independence. In 1606 an edict was issued by which the Christian religion was forbidden; but again, as in 1587, an outward show of obedience proved sufficient to ward off any active persecution as far at least as the action of the central government was concerned. In 1610, however, new difficulties arose with the Spaniards, and as the mendicant friars again provoked the anger of the government by openly resisting the orders against public worship, and inviting the native Christians to do the same, new edicts (in 1613) were issued declaring the Christian religion dangerous to the state, and ordering the churches to be destroyed, and all the priests to be banished, and this time their execution was strictly enforced. In 1614 twenty-two Franciscans, Dominican and Augustine friars, 117 Jesuits and some hundreds of Japanese priests and catechists were embarked by force on board of three junks and sent out of the country, and the 600,000 Christians who were then living in Japan were thus deprived of their spiritual instructors and chiefs. Many of the exiled priests, however, managed to return clandestinely to Japan, followed by large numbers of others anxious to obtain the crown of martyrdom, and this open resistance to his orders drove Hidetada, Ieyasu's son and successor, to bloody reprisals. The pain of death, which until then had with one exception only been used against Japanese Christians, was now pronounced against any foreign priest found in the country. A strict system of supervision was established, the foreign commerce restricted to Hirado and Nagasaki (1617), the Japanese forbidden from leaving the country (1621), until finally in 1624 all foreigners, with the exception of the Dutch and Chinese, were banished from Japan. At the same time the persecution against the native Christians continued. Thousands died on the cross or were decapitated, drowned or burned alive, until at Nagasaki in 1692 with the exception of some miserable prisoners in the jails every vestige of the Christian faith appeared to have been

destroyed; it was left to our times to prove that all the measures of the Government had to a certain extent been vain, and that the fire they had believed to have extinguished entirely had still continued to smoulder beneath the ashes.

This sketch of the history of Christianity in Japan would not be complete without a mention at least of those causes which allowed the Japanese Government to enter upon and maintain their policy of exclusion.

The short period of the intercourse of Japan with the world happened to fall within the time when political and religious jealousy were at their highest between the nations of Europe, and when the sword of every one was against his neighbour. Their feuds followed the Western nations to the shores of Asia; and Spaniards and Portuguese, English and Dutch, vied with each other in exciting the fear and the hatred of the Japanese against those they considered as the enemies of their country and their creed. At the same time, while the foreigners thought in this way, the Japanese contrived how to use them against each other; the sudden impulse which trade and discoveries had given to some European nations came to a stand-still, the union of Portugal with Spain in 1581, the reigns of Philipp II and III in Spain, the revolt of the Spanish Netherlands and the wars between Holland and England, were all sufficient reasons why what had been impossible to Japan fifty years ago, could be done with impunity in the seventeenth century.

But apart from the political causes, the conduct of the foreigners themselves residing in Japan, missionaries as well as merchants, was little calculated to inspire the Japanese with respect and sympathy. By the Bull of January 28th 1585, Pope Gregory XIII had granted to the Jesuits the exclusive privilege of sending missionaries to Japan. Clemens VIII gave the same right on December 12th 1600 to the mendicant orders, provided they embarked in Portugal and passed through Goa before going to Japan; and in 1608, finally, (Bull dated June 11th) Pope Paul V extended this privilege also to these members of the mendicant orders who went to Japan by some other road, i.e. by the Philippine Islands. But while these changes were sanctioned and introduced by the authority of the Popes, the mendicant friars did not wait for them, but went to Japan by what road they liked, though the punishment of the *excommunicatio major ipso facto incurrenda* was pronounced against all transgressors. This interference gave rise to numerous squabbles,—the word is hard, but merited,—between the different orders, which sometimes ended in excommunications being pronounced against opponents, but could give those Japanese who were inclined to scoff but a poor idea of the priests of the new doctrine. At the same time the slave trade which all foreigners resident in Japan, but more especially the Portuguese, carried on to a great extent, gave the Japanese authorities a reason as well as a pretext for dissatisfaction. The internal convulsions under which Japan had suffered for a long while before the arrival of foreigners, and continued to suffer until Ieyasu conquered his rivals, the wars with Corea, and the general miserable condition of the lower classes of the population, who had very often nothing left but to die from starvation, had thrown such a quantity of human flesh upon the market that, as Bishop Cerqueira tells us, even the Malay and Negro servants in the service of Portuguese merchants could revel in the luxury of buying Japanese or Corean slaves, to be resold at Macao. This traffic in slaves, which the authorities of Macao as well as the ecclesiastical chiefs in Japan (Bishop Cerqueira on the 4th of September 1598 and his predecessor before him) had tried in vain to prevent, even by menacing transgressors with the greater excommunication, and which had caused the issue by Taikosamma of decrees threatening with death not only the sellers but also the buyers of slaves, was certainly one of the legitimate grievances of the Japanese against the foreigners, and had probably contributed not a little to their final exclusion from the country.

Thus, on the one side, the political state of Europe, the jealousies between the different foreign nations, as well as between the members of the different religious orders, and the lawlessness of the merchants, and, on the other, the fear of the Japanese Government to see the lower classes of society raised from their state of slavish submissiveness

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to one of independent feeling and thinking, as well as the desire of the Government to monopolise the profit of trade for themselves and certain privileged mercantile companies, brought about a state of affairs which, when it restricted the foreign relations with Japan to the paltry trade of the Dutch at Desima deprived Japan at the same time of that intercourse with the other nations of the world which alone can prevent that process of mortification of the mind of which the attempt to live outside the society of their equals, shows us so many remarkable instances, whether in men, in social classes, or in nations.

JAPANESE NOTES.

The following is a translation of the sentences passed on the leaders of the *Saga* insurrection, which we extract from the *Nissin Shinjishi* of April 29th. Etô is the same person whom we have spoken of under the name of Yetô; his name is pronounced both ways. We are not certain that the reading of all the names is correct.

ETÔ SHIMPEI,
SHIMA YOSHINO,
[also called Danyemon.]

In defiance of the Law, and pretexting the 'subjugation of Corea' and the 'love of country' as a justification, you assembled confederates, collected arms, resisted the forces of the Government and attempted treason. For these offences you are condemned to be deprived of the rank of *samurai*, and to decapitation with subsequent exposure of the head,

ASAOKA NAWOTAKE.
KADZUKI KEIGORÔ.
YAMANAKA ICHIRÔ.
NISHI YOSHIKATA.
NAKAJIMA TEIZÔ.

The above for the "subjugation of Corea."

SOYEJIMA YOSHITAKA.
SHIGEMATSU MOTOYOSHI.
MURAYAMA NAGANORI.
FUKUCHI TSUNEKAGE.
NAKAGAWA YOSHIZUMI.

The above for the "love of country."

In defiance of the Law and pretexting the "subjugation of Corea" and the "love of country" as a justification, you aided the treason of Etô Shimpei and Shima Yoshiwo, and resisted the forces of the Government. For these offences you are condemned to be deprived of the rank of *samurai* and to decapitation.

OFFICIAL SUMMARY OF EVENTS.

DURING MARCH, 1874: VIIth YEAR OF MEIJI.

4th.—It was announced that on the 1st March a telegram was received to the effect that the rebellion in the *Sagan ken* was suppressed.

8th.—A Consulate was established at Marseilles.

The Consulate at Venice was disestablished.

A board of Statistics was established under the control of the Gaisi.

The position of Kuchios and Kachios (Municipal officers) was assimilated to that of Government officers, and, until further orders, will be as follows:—

Kuchios and Fuko Kuchios shall rank from between the twelfth to the fifteenth order; and Kachios and Fuko Kachios from the first order beyond the ordinary list of civil servants to the sixth, as expediency may require.

The amount was fixed of the daily allowances to be made to officers of *Fus* and *Kens* when making an ordinary journey, or when making a visitation, or stay, within their jurisdictions; the regulation to come into force from the 1st day of April.

14th.—Notice was given that Yetô Shimpei, a Sizoku of the *Saga Ken*, who took part in the rebellion and afterwards fled, was deprived of his rank as the first step of punishment; further punishment to ensue when he should be found.

15th.—The mode was fixed of apportioning the allowances to those who had surrendered their claims on the Government for certain periods.

Copper money allowed to be exported as well as the gold and silver coins.

18th.—In the Board of Public Works and the Surveying Board scholarships in the Arts have been established.

20th.—The silver coins struck at the Mint in Ozaka have been altered as follows:—

Diameter: 1 sun, 2 rups, 4 rups (in Kanesashi.)

Weight: (Japanese) 7 mommê, 1 pun, 7 rups, 7 mos. (English) 416 grains.

Standard: 9 parts silver and 1 part copper.

24th.—The Census having been completed copies of it are sent to all the *Fus*, *Shi*, and *Kens*.

25th.—An endeavour will be made to collect and preserve in the Home Department all books, whether public or private, from any part of the empire, which are calculated to throw light upon the administration of public affairs, the management of public institutions, the customs, manners and feelings of the people, and accordingly it is ordered that lists of books existing or published within the jurisdiction of every office and court should be examined and sent in to the Department.

28th.—The regulations were determined on for the issue of the certificates of public debt to those who have surrendered their hereditary revenues.

29th.—Schools of Foreign Languages were established in *Ahichi ken*, the second university district; in *Hirosima ken*, the fourth university district; in *Niigata ken*, the sixth university district; and in *Miyagi ken*, the seventh university district.

OUR NEIGHBOURHOOD.

PART XI.

(Continued.)

Who and what, then, is the solitary tenant who has the hardihood to occupy this unwholesome residence? Beside the door a signboard, ornamented with a scarlet sun and sky-blue moon reposing upon a curly cloud, and underneath thereof six horizontal bars five of which are bisected with a red streak, proclaim that fortune-telling by the Chinese method is carried on within, and is therefore a reply in full to the second query in the foregoing sentence, and as to the personality of the Augur none but a stranger to "Our Neighbourhood" could fail to know that he is the BLIND PRIEST. To such as may feel inclined to find fault with this apparently reckless expenditure of capitals and of the definite article, it may be necessary to state in explanation thereof, that there is but one Blind Priest in "Our Neighbourhood," and that any looseness of diction on such a point might encourage a belief that we abound in blind priests, and so scatter the rays of interest which should be concentrated upon a single object. For he is truly a remarkable individual, and worthy of attention. From earliest dawn ere yet the climbing sun has drunk the dew drops, till evening's glooms proclaim him risen on another world, a mototonous chant may be heard to issue from the open door, intermittent only on the advent of a client seeking to lift up the curtain which conceals the future, or ceasing for a span when, overcome by the heat of summer, the blind old man is forced to follow the example of the drowsy neighbours and is fain to slumber out the noon.

This chant is carried on in a low key and in a forced voice, the chest seemingly being first fully inflated and then gradually emptied of its air, until the last words (if words they be) of each period, become by degrees more and more guttural and difficult of ejaculation; then with a fresh inspiration taken with a quick hissing sound, he begins again with renewed energy a full tone higher than before, and, as if a weight had been lifted off his mind, to gradually descend again, and so on without variation for the lifelong day he continues to wind himself up and run down again, like a cheap mechanical toy, tinkling his little bell at intervals, and stopping only for his meals when visitors are scarce. Whether this proceeds from a spirit of devotion, or is a remnant of his priestly craft, or is done in expiation of some heinous crime the memory of which haunts him ever, is a matter for conjecture. Naught is known about his early history! That he was not always a priest, however, is understood, and that he has a strange liking for ironwork of all descriptions, has been noticed. Nay, more, his knowledge of the technicalities even of the craft has excited

surprise. But nothing more is known about him now than when he first arrived some years ago, spite of friendly questionings and neighbourly espyings. Nothing save that a blind man, travel-stained and careworn, with a bundle slung upon his back, appeared one wintry day in "Our Neighbourhood," his footsteps guided by a little child to whom he gave directions whither she should lead him, and who, making straight for the haunted houses, and selecting one of them, had entered in and dwelt there. A tall and lean old man but poorly clad, his pallid face seamed and scarred by small pox, and beneath his high and narrow forehead, a pair of sunken recesses to which the light of midday was but as the blackness of night. A taciturn gloomy old man, who from the time he first appeared amongst us, has never left his dwelling, and who since he hung his sign besides his door, has supported himself solely by the scanty proceeds of his fortune-telling. Within the open doors a passer-by may see a small recess, originally a portion of the room beyond, from which it has been cut off by patched and dirty paper doors. Pictures of Buddha and smoke stained legends in ancient characters ornament its walls, and on the mats and opposite the entrance stands a little table some three feet long by fifteen inches high, on which are displayed his divining apparatus, consisting of a handful of little rods (fifty in all) called *zeichiku*, kept for safety in a bamboo joint or pencil stand, and six small black blocks of wood bisected by a red streak,—facsimiles of which are displayed as stated upon the signboard outside—and which are called *sangi*. Behind this table sits the old fortune-teller, where in pursuit of his calling he is required to explore the future for, it may be, a gaping country girl anxious for a sweetheart—a shopkeeper looking for a runaway apprentice, or a husbandman enquiring for a favorable day on which to sow his rice. On these occasions his method of procedure is as follows:—Having rattled his rods together by rolling them between his palms, he raises them to his forehead for a moment in a reverential manner, and then taking one from the bundle, lays it on the little table beside his right hand. He then proceeds, having divided them into two and rejected one portion which he replaces on the pencil holders, to count out by fours those retained in his hand, and in accordance with the broken number left he moves a block. This process twice again repeated by threes on these occasions, and a block moved as before, a combination of the blocks results in which the characters upon them correspond with the number of a paragraph in a book of oracular responses, which when referred to is accepted as a satisfactory reply to the query. He does not, however, depend much upon the book, but trusts in a great measure to his inspiration. He will tell you that he passes one hour every morning in a religious trance, in which it is revealed to him what general form of combination of the *sangi* will be propitious for the day. He professes to know beforehand that certain questions will be asked of him, and is prepared to answer them accordingly without much deliberation. Joy or sorrow, anger or dismay, he has found to interfere with the spirit of divination. He cannot depend upon his prophecies after such emotions.

But here comes a buxom little housewife to consult him. She is dressed in her holiday best, and her freshly shaven eyebrows and well blacked teeth shew that she has made a careful toilette. But for all that there's trouble in her honest face, and she is commencing a voluminous torrent of explanation, whilst she seeks in her purse for the quarter *bu* which is his fee, when he stops her short and says: "You've had a quarrel with your husband and are meditating flight. Be cautious what you do." A look of wonder and amazement quickly replaces her former expression, her eyes grow round as saucers, for a moment she forgets her search for the little coin, and then in a nervous hurry, drawing out her money, she makes her bow and leaves him still exhorting her. She is succeeded by a tall, robust, old man who is very particular in his enquiries as to whether a certain accident, which it has been foretold will happen to him, is likely to be a misfortune or simply a wound, and goes away much comforted on being assured that nothing worse than a fall from a carriage and resulting bruise is in store for him. To him succeeds a youth who learns from the fortune-teller not only his private history, but is even told to his amazement that he has had a wound on one of his legs which has left a mark.

These clients gone and no one further appearing, after waiting for a little time the old man retires within the paper doors, and may be heard once more at his devotions, whilst the outer room returns again to gloom; for but a moment, however, for a strange radiance has overpowered the gloom. Can it be a ray of gladsome sunlight which has wandered in to brighten up the miserable dwelling? No, scarcely that, for no sunlight ever penetrates that wretched chamber. Nor, if it did, could it draw aside a paper slide and lean against a mouldered doorpost. What is it then that sheds this cheerful glow around? Only the blind priest's little maid. His comely little maid, whose bright appearance, whilst seeming to illuminate all the mean and shabby room, in reality throws out of focus all but her winsome self. Behold her standing forward by the doorway, a charming bit of colour amongst the neutral tints around, her sweet face dimpled into a smile as she caresses the glossy cat she carries in her arms, or laughs back a gay rejoinder to the stonemason's joke about the moon at midday. How neatly dressed she is in her stone-grey garment bound in at the waist with a broad blue *obi* lined with yellow, whilst round her neck and beneath her upper dress may be seen folded across her bosom a roll of scarlet crape! She calls the old man "master," but a something in her lineaments betokens close relationship. She is a general favourite, and is bashfully regarded by many an aspiring but faint hearted young neighbour. Even the cut-flower man, rugged as though chipped out of freestone and terrible at a bargain, is not insensible to the charms of the simple little beauty; for see, he has left his stock in trade at the fried eel shop door, (whose mistress is still grumbling at her scanty nosegay), and striding across the road has thrust into the little damsels' hand an offering of his choicest, and retreated again in haste as if ashamed of himself. How very pleased she looks! She's pleasant to converse with, too. "Is she fond of cats?" "Oh! Yes, and the master delights in them too. He keeps quite a number. *Neko*, did the gentleman say? No, no, this is not a *nedsumi* or rat killer, he's a *neko*, a *hehi*, or snake killer, and that tortoise-shell fellow who has just come through the hole in the paper door is a *toko*, or *tori* (bird) killer. *Otoko* did the gentleman say? Ah! I see he's joking, and I am such a poor hand at finding out a joke. Is it not strange the power that cats are possessed of? I have heard the master say that in noble families when a member dies and lies in state, a *wakizashi* or short sword is placed beside his hand to enable him, if brought to life again by a cat sitting upon his body, to kill his tormentor. With us poor folks it does not matter, though, as we are hurried into our coffins at once. Extraordinary indeed, Sir. Then again,—but I hear the master calling for me and I must go. Good bye, Sir. Won't you come again?"

ASIATIC SOCIETY OF JAPAN.

An ordinary general meeting of this society was held on Wednesday evening, the 15th April, 1874, at the Grand Hotel, J. C. Hepburn, Esq., M.D., President in the chair.

The minutes of the last general meeting were read and confirmed, and the names of new members announced, as follows:—

Elected at a council meeting held on the 18th of March:—The Hon. C. C. Smith, and Mr. G. P. Ness. Elected at a council meeting held on the 1st of April:—Mr. C. Brennwald, of Yokohama, Messrs. M. O. Flowers, Henry Gribble, H. A. Howe, Junr., Duer, and Hunt, of Nagasaki, Messrs. Edward Dillon, B.A., F.C.S., Wm. Gowland, F.C.S., R. MacLagan, Wm. Smith, c.s., and H. W. Wheeler, of Osaka, Messrs. R. Eusden, J. A. Albinson, Wilson, and Dr. Eldridge, of Hakodate, and Sir John Smale, of Hongkong.

The donations, by Dr. Hepburn of a copy of his Japanese Dictionary, and of \$10 from Ch. de Groote, Esq., were acknowledged.

A paper on "Winds and Currents in the vicinity of the Japanese Islands" was then read, in the absence of the author Captain A. R. Brown, by R. H. Brunton, Esq.

The President tendered the thanks of the Society to Captain Brown for his valuable paper.

* Published in our issue of last week.

The Rev. E. W. Syle regretted the absence of the Naval gentlemen whose attendance had been especially invited for this occasion. The subject of currents off the shores and among the islands of Japan was one of the greatest importance; one which possessed also a painful—almost tragic—interest in view of such losses as those of the *Hermann, Ariel, Relief* and now the *Nil*. In all these cases the disasters were attributed in great part, to the influence of currents which were powerful though uncertain; and about which there seemed at present to be no reliable or useful knowledge. With regard to the violent currents often encountered in the Inland Sea, especially in the Kino Channel, the Bungo Channel, and the Straits of Shimonoseki, Captain Furber of the P. M. S. S. Co. had been understood to say that the prevalence of southerly or south-easterly winds at some times, and northerly, westerly or north-westerly at others, would determine the set of currents through these several Channels to the counteraction of all other influences, tidal or otherwise. Captain Furber's absence was much to be regretted, as his large and recent experience would have enabled him to contribute much valuable information on a subject whose interest was of the most practical and in our circumstances, most painful character.

Mr. Brunton said: "Although Captain Brown is perhaps right in saying that the current always flows to the N. E. at Rock Island, there can be no doubt that, as the China Pilot says, that ebb tide flows E. N. E. and the flood W. S. W. in that locality. While the ebb tide flows with the Japan Stream, the flood tide opposes it. The strength of the tides are very variable, but at certain times they are of great strength. During ebb tide the flow of the Japan Stream is accelerated, and it is no uncommon occurrence to see boats carried past Rock Island at a speed of from three to four miles per hour. During flood tides on the contrary the Japan Stream is retarded, and it is not unfrequently altogether stopped. A conflict then arises between the two Streams, and the effect is that they sometimes neutralize one another. But this conflict causes an extraordinary disturbance in the surface of the water. In places it rises into pinnacle-shaped waves which dance about in all directions; in other places it breaks out into a long line of breakers just as a river torrent does when going over a rapid; and it generally presents the appearance that water does which is considerably over boiling point. I mention this because I have on several occasions gone between Rock Island and the shore in Japanese boats, and have so had very practical opportunities of judging of the state of the sea and of the directions of the current. I have never seen a current at Rock Island setting towards the S. W., but I have seen the water almost stationary, while half way between Rock Island and the shore the flood tide sets to the S. W. with great velocity. It is well known to navigators that with certain winds and at certain times there is a strong set into Suruga Gulf. This set was probably one of the causes which led to the loss of the *Nil*. Sufficient allowance had not been made for it, and in the thick weather which she experienced she got set to the northwards of her proper course, and ran on shore about twelve miles to the N. W. of Rock Island thinking she was going direct for it. It is the opinion of many nautical men that this northerly set is due to the direction in which the wind blows, and that it only occurs during south-easterly or southerly winds. But to my mind the most feasible way of accounting for it is that the flood tide, which rushes towards the S. W. between Rock Island and the shore, and which impinges on and is met by the Japan Stream, is turned towards the north immediately after it passed Cape Idzu, and finds a means of egress in the Suruga Gulf. Just in the same way as Captain Brown has explained in his paper, that the Oyasiwa on the East Coast where it meets the Japanese Stream is turned towards the West, and has been the cause of so many wrecks in the vicinity of Iwaboye.

Captain W. McDonald, being called upon by the Chairman, said that he had arrived too late to hear the paper read, and so could not make any remarks upon it, but that it was many years since he had been in a position to study the subject. What experience he had had in former years was recorded in

the Nautical Magazine of 1862-3. With respect to the currents he might mention that on one occasion, after good observations on the previous day, he experienced off the Gulf of Yedo a current of 60 miles E.S.E. in 16 hours.

Mr. J. Pitman said that he had unfortunately arrived too late to hear the whole of the paper read, but must decidedly take exception to the statement that the wrecks of the *Hermann, Ariel, Relief* and *Nil* were attributable to the influence of the unknown currents on the Japan Coast. With regard to the *Nil* there might be, as Mr. Brunton had remarked, a current at times setting out of the Suruga gulf round Cape Idzu into the Gulf of Yedo, but these inshore currents and eddies, dependent as they were on local and tidal influences, were not peculiar to Japan, and a prudent navigator knowing the uncertainty of these inshore currents, in thick and heavy weather would guard against being within their influence. The subject with which the paper treated was one of great general importance, and therefore deserving of close investigation. There could be no doubt that we had but a very imperfect knowledge of the currents on this coast, and he would mention a fact which came under his own observation in February 1871 when on board the S.S. *Acantha*. She had left Yokohama and having met a strong westerly gale outside was forced to seek shelter under Cape Diamond until the wind moderated. On continuing her westerly course after sunset, expecting to make Rock Island light, she was found at midnight to be inside and close alongside the Redfield rocks and had a very narrow escape of being wrecked. It was only fair to mention that the vessel was only in "ballast trim" at the time.

Mr. W. H. Smith called attention to the fact that there were so few persons present prepared to discuss this very important subject, and raised the question whether it might not be advisable to allow the papers to be laid upon the table for a fortnight before the Meetings at which they were to be read. After some discussion on the subject, he moved that the matter be referred to the Council for decision. This motion was seconded by Mr. Pitman, but on being put to the meeting, was lost. Mr. Brunton suggested that the papers should be read by the author at one meeting and discussed at the following meeting. This would meet all views which had been expressed and was very often done at home. At length, the following Resolution, moved by the Rev. Mr. Syle and seconded by Sir H. S. Parkes was carried. "That when practicable the papers about to be read shall lie on the table in the Society's Library for the perusal of Members."

Mr. Von Brandt then favoured the Meeting with an interesting description of the custom of tattooing as practised in this country; and a short discussion of the subject followed in which Sir H. S. Parkes, Captain McDonald and Captain Bridgford joined.

The Meeting adjourned at about a quarter past ten.

AMATEUR ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION.

The Meetings of this Society are usually specially favoured with propitious weather and yesterday, albeit somewhat too warm for the unsheltered spectator, proved no exception to this dispensation of good fortune. Attracted by the rumours of the excellent sports prepared for their amusement and the tempting loveliness of the weather a large muster of the Public was present on the ground at an early hour in the afternoon. The path was in fair condition and the arrangements were such as to ensure smoothness in the execution of the programme.

The results subjoined will show how carefully the Committee had studied the relative powers of the various competitors in their delicate task of handicapping.

FIRST DAY.

Friday, 1st May, 1874.

1.—100 YARDS FLAT HANDICAP.

Two Prizes.

First Heat.

H. B. Henley,.....	12 yards	1
J. J. Dare,	3 "	2

F. S. James,	4 "	3
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A good race, won by about $1\frac{1}{2}$ yards. Time 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ s. (for 88 yards.)

Second Heat.

C. P. Hall,	5 yards	1
F. Walker,	5 "	2
H. St. George.....	6 "	3
A. Vivanti	8 "	0

St. George at first made the best of his start, but was ultimately passed by Hall and Walker, the former winning a close race by half a yard. 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ sec. (95 yards.)

Third Heat.

A. T. Watson,	2 yards	1
J. Dodds,	4 "	2
E. F. Kilby.....	5 "	3
W. T. Buckle.....	10 "	0

Dodds was first away, but the want of training here told and Watson caught him up about six yards from home, winning by only a few inches.

Fourth Heat.

Abbott..... (Scratch,)	1
F. Vivanti..... 7 yards.....	2

Won without much difficulty. Time 11 2.5s

HALF MILE FLAT.

For non-commissioned officers and men of the Army and Navy.

Tarring,	1
Gardner,	2
Coombs.....	3

Gardner was the favorite, but appeared too big to compete with the winner who ran in good style throughout.

3.—HURDLE RACE.

120 yards over ten flights.

E. Abbott,	1
A. J. Smith,	2
J. J. Dare,	3

Smith was looked upon as the winner for this event, but Abbott, having the best of it on the flat, won with a few yards to spare.

4.—THROWING THE HAMMER.

J. P. Reid,	1
A. J. Smith,	2
Mr. Reid threw 71 ft. 4 in.	

5.—ONE MILE WALKING RACE.

A. J. Watson,	1
W. T. Buckle,.....	2
A. Vivanti,	3

This race was never in doubt, for Mr. Watson on the third lap passed the "Doctor," (who had a minute start), and won easily in the quick time of 8min. 20sec. for the mile.

6.—PRIVATE MATCH, HALF MILE.

J. P. Reid 1st, W. T. Buckle 2nd.

Dr. Buckle was hardly in form to compete with Reid for this event (as he was entirely done up by walking in the previous race) and eventually retired.

7.—150 YARDS FLAT.*First Heat*

Abbott, scratch, 1st. F. Walker, 8 yards, 2nd. A. Vivanti, 12 yards, 3rd.

A close contest, won by a foot. Time 12 sec.

Second Heat.

Henley, 18 yards, 1st. Hall, 8 yards, 2nd.

This was a hard fought race, Henley securing it in 16 $\frac{1}{2}$ seconds.

Third Heat.

F. S. James..... 7 yards..... w.o.

8.—THROWING THE CRICKET BALL.

Abbot, 1st, 94 yards 1 foot. Hall, 2nd, 82 feet.

9.—LADIES PURSE.

F. Walker, 1st. James, 2nd. A. H. Dare, scratch. No less than seven competitors started for this, the most

valued prize of the meeting. Mr. James took up the running, and at one time looked like securing the Purse, when Walker, who had been quietly reserving his "spurt" for the last hundred yards, ran through his men in good form winning with three yards to spare.

The prize was presented to Mr. Walker by Miss Goodwin, who complimented him in a humorous little speech in which the victor's name was woven into a happy *cal-embourg*. The confusion of the occasion seems to have bereft the conqueror of his power of reply for he retired, silent, and under the shadow of his laurels. We believe he reserves his acknowledgements for to-day.

10.—HIGH JUMP.

A. J. Smith, 5 feet 1. J. J. Dare, 4 feet 11 in.

11.—FINAL HEAT 100 YARDS.

Abbott(Scratch,)..... 1

Watson(2 yards)..... 2

A close and exciting race, won with little to spare. Time doubtful.

Captain Walsh, R.M., acted as starter.

Law & Police.**H. B. M.'s CONSULAR COURT.**

Before RUSSELL ROBERTSON, Esq., Consul.

April 28, 1874.

F. Percival was charged with laying, on the 22nd January, assaulted and bound up with a rope a Japanese employed by him.

Accused pleaded guilty to tying the Japanese up, but not to beating him.

Yendo Kamekichi, cautioned, said that he was employed at the butchery at Homoko. On the 22nd January he was bound up by accused, his hands crossed and tied up above his head, his feet scarcely touching the ground. He remained so for two hours, when he was released. In consequence a cough ensued, and his arms were almost paralysed, and his hands became livid. He was suspected of theft, but it was unjust. On the 22nd January some oil was brought from Yokohama in a boat, and some three boxes stolen. He and another boy were accused of being privy to the theft. He had done nothing since, owing to the state of his hands.

Prisoner said that he had sent fifty cases up to Yokohama, three cases were found to be missing, and the prisoner had the keys of the godown. No oil arrived from Yokohama, as the Japanese had stated. He was only tied up some twenty minutes.

A Japanese woman and a girl were called, and appeared to confirm the tying up of the prosecutor.

Accused said that there were two witnesses not present, one of whom could prove that the prosecutor had since wished to go back to his employment; and another who could prove that it was only during twenty minutes that he had been tied up.

Prosecutor, recalled, said that he had never asked to be taken back.

To Court, accused said that the two witnesses had promised to come up without being subpoenaed.

Case adjourned to two o'clock for the purpose of procuring evidence for the defence.

Francis A. Palmer, sworn, said that the prosecutor was tied up about twenty minutes or a quarter of an hour. There were no policemen to be found when looked for.

To Court, witness said that prosecutor was tied up until assistance could be got. He might have run away.

The prisoner said that on the 20th January he had received 50 cases of kerosene. On the morning of the 13th he found that three cases had been stolen, and others broken open and carefully put up again into their places. A stranger would have taken the first to hand, but in this case some cunning had been shown. The place had been locked up, but the staple had been drawn. He could not suspect other than the man who had been tied up; but taking pity on his family he had finally let him go, and paid him up to the day when he had discharged him, without handing him over to the police. A policeman is not seen once a month in his neighbourhood.

His Honor remarked that the tying-up was evidently intended as a punishment. It could not have been resorted to for the sake of security alone. He could understand striking a man caught red-handed in the act of stealing, although he by no means endorsed such action. He should show his disapprobation of accused's conduct in sentencing him to seven days' imprisonment.—*Herald*.

Thos. Rose was charged with having, on the 13th instant, beaten a coolie with an iron rod.

Accused pleaded "Not guilty."

Prosecutor stated that he had been engaged in carrying coals and during a shower of rain took refuge under the eaves of a house. The defendant accused him of stealing and struck him: he ran away and made a complaint at the Police Station. He had been two weeks laid up in consequence of the severe beating. He was waiting to be paid when he took shelter.

A Japanese witness corroborated the evidence of the prosecutor. He saw him struck and assisted him to rise.

G. W. Miller for the defence denied that the coolies were employed at his house. The prosecutor had no right to be there. The pay hour, moreover, was 7 p.m., not noon.

James Watson, stated that he did not see the prosecutor struck. They suspected the coolies having lost a good deal of property.

Thomas Rose, stated, that having lost a good deal of property from thefts recently, he had found it necessary to exercise the utmost vigilance. He firmly believed that the coolie was in the spot where he found him for the purpose of thieving.

The defendant was fined \$2 and costs.

IN H. B. M.'s PROVINCIAL COURT
Before C. W. GOODWIN, Esq., Assistant Judge.

Thursday, April 30th, 1874.

YU SING v. TAYLOR.

This was a claim for \$24.50 for clothing supplied to the defendant.

The defendant stated that he had ordered certain clothes from the plaintiff on the supposition that he represented Chang Chow. He had paid the latter and held his receipt.

Yu Sing, the plaintiff, stated that the clothes were ordered from him in January. On delivering them he obtained an order for money. On applying for payment the defendant ordered a coat from him, and told him he would pay for all the clothing supplied together. He has not been paid anything.

Alfred Taylor, the defendant, admitted that he had ordered and received the clothes, but alleged that Chang Chow was the principal to whom the money was due and to whom it had been paid. He had seen the plaintiff in Chang Chow's store, and was told that he was his servant.

His Honour decided that the money was due to the holder of the order, and gave judgment for the plaintiff with costs.

Extracts.

JAPAN AND FORMOSA.

The announcement that Japan has declared war against Formosa gives rise to some curious speculations. Most habitual readers of the local journals are tolerably familiar with the circumstances which have brought about this somewhat old state of affairs. Some time since a party of shipwrecked Japanese were cast ashore on the inhospitable coasts of aboriginal Formosa. The reception accorded to them by the natives was, according to statements published at the time, more enthusiastic than agreeable. One report circulated was to the effect that they were killed and eaten, but that was probably an exaggeration, no clear proof of cannibalistic practices on the part of the Formosans having ever been cited. That the shipwrecked mariners met an untimely end was not, however, to be doubted, and the Japanese ambassador to Peking was therefore recently instructed to demand satisfaction for the outrage. The reply of the Chinese authorities was to the effect that they were quite unable to control the aboriginal tribes of Formosa, and that if Japan desired satisfaction she could not do better than seek it from those concerned. Japan has—doubtless to the intense astonishment of the Chinese officials—taken them at their word.

All who have watched the recent course of events in the land of the Rising Sun will quite comprehend the motives which have inspired the action of its Government. Those are probably three-fold. Firstly, and least important, is the natural desire to secure the safety of shipwrecked Japanese in a sea which is likely, in future years, to be largely frequented by vessels flying the Mikado's flag. Secondly, there has, for a period extending far back into the days of a misty antiquity, ever existed a secret and unspoken, but real feud between the two countries which now represent the extremes of change and conservatism—a feeling intensified, we may safely say, both by the arrogance of the Chinese traders who have flocked to Japan since it became open to the world, and by the Japanese remonstrances which were received at Peking. Any pretext for showing an independence of the absurd claims till very recently

held by China, as regarded feudal obedience from Japan, was therefore welcome—especially if it involved no general war. But more important than either of the reasons just cited is a third, without the existence of which the others would have ceased to have effect. The growing discontent of the Samourai in the Southern provinces has placed the Mikado very much in the position in which Napoléon III. found himself at the commencement of the Mexican war in 1860. It is necessary that something be done to give vent to the pent up desire for action on the part of the trained levies. The voice of the discontented has been unmistakeably expressed in favour of a war with Corea. For reasons which it is not difficult to understand, the Mikado's Government has declined to engage in an expedition which, though undoubtedly popular, might be the reverse of successful. But little, either in the way of glory or profit, could be gained even were Corea humbled. It is perfectly well known that China asserts but a feeble control over the Corean peninsula and any warlike operations in that quarter would but slightly affect Chinese opinion. Formosa, on the other hand, is an integral portion of the empire proper. A successful expedition to its shores would place Japan in a position of menace to the whole of the Central Chinese seaboard, and it can scarcely be doubted that the way in which China will regard her act has seriously weighed with Japan.

It has yet to be seen whether China will calmly put up with the literal interpretation accorded to her utterance. The hostile demonstration of the Japanese may be confined to those portions of the island inhabited by the aborigines, or it may not;—and in the latter case some inconvenience is likely to accrue to the Chinese inhabitants. It is of course possible that the latter may be instructed to make common cause with the Japanese squadrone against the aborigines. In such a case the moral force of the position taken by Japan will be in no way weakened. She will appear in the rôle of protector, as sufficiently strong to do that which China herself dare not attempt. Unimportant as the campaign will probably be to immediate European interests, its results may exercise an important influence on the future of the two countries most nearly interested. —*China Mail.*

THE PACIFIC MAIL COMPANY.

The publication of the last Report of the Directors of the Pacific Mail Company—a copy of which reached us by the recent mail—bids fair to open up a new era in the conduct of what should be one of the most successful enterprises of modern times. Its many friends will note with gratified astonishment that men have been found of sufficient boldness and honesty to cast aside anything like concealment, and to let the future standing of the corporation depend upon a truthful estimate of its actual status and capabilities. We have seldom perused a more creditable document—bearing in mind, as we must, the peculiar conditions under which the management of the company has hitherto been conducted. Owing, says the new board, "to the manner in which the accounts of the company have heretofore been kept, and the official reports yearly certified to and published according to law, they have found themselves embarrassed in the discharge of so important a duty, and have been compelled to enter upon explanations they would prefer to have omitted." We can well believe it, and ungrudgingly give them all the credit which their frank exposition of the condition in which they find matters merits. They point out how, for a long period of years in the various official yearly statements furnished to the Legislature and circulated in the public newspapers the actual cost of all the steamers owned by the Company, without reference to their depreciation, has been persistently adhered to. The result has of course been that a very large proportion of the shareholders have been misled as to the real value of their capital stock. The actual difference between that stock as hitherto estimated, and its value as subjected to the rigid test of honest assessment, is over eight millions of dollars. In other words the capital of \$20,000,000 becomes reduced to \$11,500,000. But with this after all very respectable sum the new board begins its estimates, and no higher testimony to the vitality of the company can be adduced than the fact that, in spite of such an enormous reduction in the estimate of its resources, it still holds out a promise of being one of the most successful, as it undoubtedly is one of the most important, undertakings of the present day.

None can be more interested in all that transpires regarding the Pacific Mail Company's arrangements than residents, whether foreign or native, in China. The gigantic vessels under its flag which run between this Colony, Hongkong and Yokohama on the one side, and the Pacific Coast of the United States on the other, have gained so established a place in the business of the ports named,

that any cessation of the communication thus kept up would be felt as a personal loss. The service has, upon the whole been well maintained, and though occasional disasters have overtaken it, neither life property have on such occasions been sacrificed to an extent sufficient to interfere with a fairly earned popularity. Its best friends, however, have long foreseen that if the Company would maintain its foremost place, it must take measures to be abreast of all competition. That competition has at length come, but has found the direction prepared to meet it. There is a sensible ring about the tone in which they face the fact. It is, they say "distinctly apparent that the old side wheel wooden steamers have not been used with any profit to the Company, and that the substitution of the iron propellers has become an absolute prerequisite to future success. With this conviction the Company is devoting all its efforts to the introduction of this class of vessels. Large economies are certain to be effected by this change."

As regards people at this end of the line, the actual outcome of all this is, briefly, that the Company has emerged from its embarrassments, and is about to offer to the mercantile and travelling public, facilities hitherto undreamt of in the way of transit across the Pacific. These embarrassments were twofold—bad management internally, and the consequent forfeiture of external help derivable from Governmental subsidies. As regards the first named, we have said enough to shew the way in which the action of the new board strikes those at a distance. With the greater honesty of purpose in the conduct of the Company's affairs, and the more advanced recognition of existing necessities, the second drawback will disappear. The *Grenada*, the first of the new iron steamers, leaves San Francisco this day month, followed by the *Colima* on Saturday the 16th May. Thenceforward the service will be regular, one of the new iron ships leaving every alternate Saturday. The consummation of this arrangement will place the Company in a position to claim the increased subsidy so long withheld. So much for the positive and immediate benefit to the Company itself. But the benefits to the public, and eventually to the Company, will be far greater. The new arrangements, to commence with, will give 26 instead of 24 trips per annum, the new steamers being timed to leave San Francisco and this the Saturday of every alternate week throughout the year, while arriving every alternate Monday. But in addition to these, the smaller steamers of the Company—infants of 300 tons or thereabout, hitherto employed on the isthmus trade from New York and San Francisco—will, during the busy season, be deflected to the China Coast. It will, therefore, be seen that no lack of tonnage for the service of the tea trade can possibly accrue.

A good deal of discussion has arisen regarding the adoption of the Panama route for tea and other freight, as in this time-saving age people are apt to look upon the loss of a few days with apprehensive eyes. From enquiries we have made, however, there is good reason to believe that the isthmus route is looked upon with considerable favour by the principal tea importers in the States; and we know as a fact that they are arranging their credits to avail of it so soon as the company's arrangements are complete. In the opinion of many the excessive and uninterrupted jolting of the eight or ten days journey by railroad deteriorates many qualities of tea—especially if at all lightly packed—tending to triturate the leaves and so increasing the percentage of dust. However this may be, teamen in New York are of opinion that teas received via Panama arrive in better condition than those sent by the overland railroad, and are acting up to their belief. An opinion indeed was pretty freely expressed that the arrangement originally entered into between the Railroad and the Pacific Mail Company that all Chinese merchandise should be carried exclusively by rail, was a somewhat arbitrary proceeding. It was regarded as against the interests of trade, the overland transit being during the winter often subject to delay from inclement weather, for which no compensation was afforded by the rapidity of passage at other times.

While judging that the Company has acted most wisely in placing iron screw steamers, as well as the side-wheelers hitherto employed, on the main line, we must plead guilty to something more than a sentimental feeling in favour of the comfort and convenience of the latter; and we are not therefore sorry to find that they will still be available for those to whom quick time is not of the first importance. It is improbable that in this utilitarian age we shall ever again see vessels so replete with all that goes to make a sea passage endurable, placed upon the line. We sacrifice everything now—a day to speed, and in the main find it pays. Still we cannot see the sacrifice made, without some internal doubts as to whether it is altogether wise. At all events the Pacific Mail line will, for some time to come, offer

to those of either opinion a choice of conveyance, and what might have seemed a drawback, in having to retain, for a certain period, the old vessel's, will in reality tend to maintain the popularity of the line. Its directors are doing their best to deserve success, and we can ungrudgingly give them our best wishes to that end.—*China Mail*.

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

April 27, *Acantha*, British steamer, *Young*, 958, from Shanghai and Ports, April 18th, General, to P. M. S. S. Co.

April 27, *Bogatyr*, Imperial Russian corvette, Captain Schaffrof, 2,200 tons, 10 guns, from Nagasaki via Hiogo, April 24th.

April 27, *Great Republic*, American steamer, *Howard*, 3,882, from San Francisco, April 1st, Mails and General, to P. M. S. S. Co.

April 29, *Arnolda*, American barque, *Baldry*, 340, from Guam, April 8th. Whaling gear, to Captain.

April 29, *China*, German barque, *Smith*, 201, from Taiwanfoo, April 9th. Sugar, to Chinese.

April 30, *Messilia*, British steamer, *Reeves*, 1,033, from Hongkong, April 18th, Mails and General, to P. & O. Co.

May 1, *Volga*, French steamer, *Flambeau*, 960, from Hongkong, April 23rd, Mails and General, to Messageries Maritimes.

DEPARTURES.

April 26, *Japan*, American steamer, *Freeman*, 4,254, for San Francisco, Mails and General, despatched by P. M. S. S. Co.

April 27, *Crowe*, British steamer, *Joy*, 1,300, for Hiogo, General, despatched by Gilman & Co.

April 28, *Great Republic*, American steamer, *Howard*, 3,882, for Hongkong, Mails and General, despatched by P. M. S. S. Co.

April 29, *Bombay*, British steamer, *Davies*, 1,325, for Hongkong, Mails and General, despatched by P. & O. Co.

April 29, *Golden Age*, American steamer, *Wise*, 1,870, for Shanghai and Ports, General, despatched by P. M. S. S. Co.

April 29, *Rance*, French gun-boat, Captain *Lambul*, 800 for Shanghai.

May 2, *Caroline*, German 3-masted schooner, *Paulsen*, 274, for Chefoo, in Ballast, despatched by Captain.

PASSENGERS.

Per American steamer *Japan*, for San Francisco:—*Miss Blodgett*, *Miss M. E. Andrews*, *Miss A. M. Farnham*, *Miss N. A. Nelson*, *Mrs. C. Halcombe*, *Mrs. Jenkins* and 2 children, *Mrs. M. Nelson*, *Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Spooner*, *Messrs. Geo. L. Harris*, *J. A. Spoor*, *J. Mendelsohn* and wife, *R. Mendelsohn*, *Wm. Newman*, *Dr. A. O. Treat*, *J. M. Kelly*, *Dr. Siddall* and wife, *C. C. Bennett*, *A. F. Bauer*, *Dr. Focke*, *C. Illes*, *O. Fredericks* and wife, *F. H. de Silva*, *E. T. Bird*, *Miss L. Kenfield*, *John Lindsay*, *Captain S. B. Elliot*, *Colonel O. Chambers*, *S. C. Farnham*, *J. O. Carlton*, *C. Wiggins*, 2 *Misses Wiggins*, *Captain Wm. McDonald*, *S. Endicott*, *W. Pardun*, *G. Gluckmeyer* and wife, *A. H. Hallinan*, *A. Michie*, *Anin. Dr. Van Rynphen*, *U. S. N. J. Bremner*, *F. A. Harris*, *Dr. V. B. Gates*, *F. B. Pfleifer*, and *Dr. C. J. Emerius*.

Per British steamer *Acantha*, from Shanghai:—*Messrs. J. A. Wilson*, *Dr. Coombe*, *E. C. Kirby*, *H. S. Hancock*, *E. Johnstone*, *R. Jones*, *Rowland* and servant, *F. J. Jacobs* and servant, one Chinese, and 33 Japanese in the steerage. For Liverpool:—*Captain S. Beckett*.

Per American steamer *Great Republic*, from San Francisco:—*Mrs. Lucy Arnold* and son, *James Jumer*, *Mr. and Mrs. Gordon*, *Dr. W. Wikoff*, *U. S. N. S.*, *Rev. J. Piper* and wife, *G. D. Rowan* and wife, *A. Diness*, *Mrs. H. N. Manney*, *Mrs. C. H. Craven*, *Miss Fowler*, *E. Forester*, *Miss G. H. Harmony*, *F. O. Kamure*, *S. Naito*. For Hongkong:—*Lorenzo Serlus*, *E. L. Crace*, *O. A. Dunn*, *Mrs. M. Richardson*, *Mrs. M. Greenmall*, *Mrs. A. Grey*, *nurse* and infant, *Mrs. G. Davis*, *Mrs. Lucy Baldwin*, *Mrs. C. Graham*, *John L. Anderson*. For Hiogo:—*Miss K. Burcham*, *V. N. Ramer*, wife and 2 daughters. For Shanghai:—*A. B. Brown*.

Per British steamer *Bombay*, for Hongkong:—*Messrs. Hildebrand*, *James Davidson*, *M. Christopher*, and 7 Chinese.

Per American steamer *Golden Age*, for Shanghai:—*Messrs. G. Bleentschi*, *James Davidson*, *A. J. Vale*, *W. Waghorn*, *Professor Vanek*, *J. Vanek*, *Dr. S. Williamson*, *W. F. Potter*, *W. G. Durham*, *J. D. Carroll*, *H. Tilson*, *E. Forester*, *E. A. Bird*, *W. F. Driscoll*, *Father Sutler*, *Mrs. Green*, 2 *Misses Green*, *A. Sahoening*, *W. Doron*, *H. Broeschen*, *W. W. Cargill*, *Mr. and Mrs. Ramer* and the *Misses Ramer*, *Miss Burcham*, *Dr. Wickoff*, *U. S. N. Lieut. J. Martin*, *Mrs. J. Robertson* and infant with 2 servants, and 59 in the steerage.

Per British steamer *Messilia*, from Hongkong:—Five Chinese.

Per French steamer *Volga*, from Hongkong:—*Messrs. Jouet*, *Grosser*, *M. Scheidt* and wife, *J. Beyer*, *H. N. Pearce*, and 69 quarter masters and seamen.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Acantha*, from Shanghai:—

Treasure..... \$6,200.

REPORTS.

The American steamer *Great Republic* reports: Left San Francisco, April 1st at 1.40 p.m.; April 4th, had strong gales from N. W.

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and squally weather; April 13th, had variable winds and fine weather; April 19th, strong gales from S. W. and W. N. W. with heavy sea; April 22nd, had light winds from W. N. W. and fine weather; April 27th, strong breeze from W. to W. N. W. with cloudy weather, and arrived at Yokohama, April 27th at 7.25 p.m.

The American barque *Arnolda* reports: light winds and pleasant weather, from the islands.

The German barque *China* reports: came up through the Formosa Channel and along the Coast of China, has experienced stormy weather with fog and rain, and a very cross sea at times.

The British steamer *Massilia* reports: after leaving Hongkong, met with a strong N. E. gale, and put into China Bay, remaining there till the 21st. Coming up through the Formosa Channel, had thick fog, afterwards moderate and fine weather. Passed the *Menzaleh* on the 26th, about 200 miles from Chitohakoff, and the *Great Republic* yesterday morning.

The *Volga* arrived at Hongkong, the last voyage, 24 hours before the *Behar*.

MERCHANT SHIPPING IN PORT.

STEAMERS.

		Destination.
Acantha	...	Young
Massilia	...	Shanghai and Ports
Naruto	...	Reeve
Volga	...	Hongkong
		Uncertain
		DuBois
		Flambeau
		Hongkong

SAILING SHIPS.

Active	...	291 Campbell	Uncertain
Arnolda	...	340 Baldry	Uncertain
Caroline	...	274 Paulsen	Uncertain
Catharina	...	314 Fischer	Uncertain
China	...	201 Smith	Uncertain
Hermann	...	213 Peterson	Uncertain
Italy	...	286 Bagley	Uncertain
Pride of the Thames	...	378 Burdiss	Uncertain
Westminster	...	1,434 Grose	Uncertain

VESSELS OF WAR IN HARBOUR.

H. B. gun-boat	...	Ringdove	Captain Singleton
American gun-boat	Saco	...	Captain McDougal
French gun-boat	Bourayne	...	Captain Bosc
U. S. frigate	Hartford	...	Captain Calhoun
U. S. frigate	Tuscarora	...	Captain Belknap
Russian corvette	Bogatyr	...	Captain Schaffrof

VESSELS EXPECTED.

SAILLED.

FOR CHINA PORTS, WITH GOODS FOR JAPAN.
FROM LONDON, via SHANGHAI.—"Cassandra" str.
FROM LIVERPOOL.—"Glaucus" str.; "Achilles," str.
FROM HAMBURG.—

FOR JAPAN DIRECT.

FROM LONDON, FOR YOKOHAMA.—"F. C. Clarke."
YOKOHAMA AND HIODO.—"Harrington,"
"Scawfell," "Mary Ann Wilson."
FROM LIVERPOOL, FOR YOKOHAMA AND HIODO.—"Eme," "Chusan."
FROM BREMEN.—"Humboldt," str.
FROM GLASGOW.—"Glenearn" str.

LOADING.

AT LIVERPOOL.—"Nestor," "Sarpedon" str.; "Ajax" str.
AT LONDON, FOR YOKOHAMA, HIODO AND NAGASAKI.—"Tchibatchoff" str.; "Japan" str.; "Montgomeryshire" str.; "Vancouver" str.
AT LONDON, FOR YOKOHAMA AND HIODO.—"Ambassador," "Coulakyle," "Suffolk," "Remus."
AT LONDON, FOR YOKOHAMA.—
AT LIVERPOOL, FOR YOKOHAMA AND HIODO.—"Cathaya," "Jessica."
AT LIVERPOOL, FOR YOKOHAMA.—via Cardiff "Earl of Dufferin."

THE "JAPAN MAIL."

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METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

LATITUDE. 35° 25' 41" North.

LONGITUDE. 139° 39' 0" East.

OBSERVATIONS TAKEN AT 9 A.M. LOCAL TIME.																
Day of Week.	Day of Month.	Barometer.	Attached Thermometer.	Hygrometer.				Wind.		During past 24 hrs.						
				Dry bulb.	Wet bulb.	Dew Point.	Elastic force of Vapour.	Humidity 0—1.	Direction.	Force in lbs. per sq. ft.	Cloud. 0—10.	Max. in air.	Min. in air.	Mean in air.	Rain in Inches.	Ozone.
Saturday	April 25	29.90	58.0	58.0	51.0	44.6	.295	.613	N.	.50	8	67.0	50.5	58.7	.00	3
Sunday	" 26	29.77	58.0	58.5	55.0	52.5	.395	.803	N.	.18	4	66.0	45.0	55.5	.00	4
Monday	" 27	29.95	56.5	56.5	50.0	44.0	.288	.643	N.	.44	1	66.0	43.0	54.5	.00	3
Tuesday	" 28	30.09	56.0	56.0	51.0	46.6	.317	.708	N.N.E.	.47	5	66.0	44.0	55.0	.17	5
Wednesday	" 29	30.01	61.0	66.0	61.5	58.4	.490	.765	S.	.25	2	67.5	45.0	56.2	.00	4
Thursday	" 30	29.98	66.0	69.5	65.5	63.4	.583	.809	Calm.	.00	8	76.5	54.0	65.2	.00	2
Friday	May 1	30.07	62.5	63.0	61.0	59.8	.514	.893	E.	.02	9	79.0	49.5	64.2	.00	3
Mean	"	29.96	59.7	61.0	56.4	52.7	.411	.747		.26	5	69.7	47.2	58.4	.02	3.4

From observations at 9 A.M. daily, on the Bluff (100 feet above sea level), the mean reading of the barometer last month was 29.95 in.; the highest reading was 30.09 in. on the 18th; and the lowest 29.65 in. on the 24th.

The mean temperature of the air was 52.9 degrees.

The highest day temperature in the shade was 76.5 deg. on the 30th, and the lowest night temperature was 31.5 deg. on the 1st. The extreme range therefore was 45.0 deg.

The difference between the mean dew point and the air temperature was 5.2 degrees.

The mean degree of humidity of the air was .753; complete saturation being represented by 1.

The general direction of the wind during the month was north-easterly.

Rain fell during the month to the amount of 5.51 in.

There were 24 days on which no rain fell; the maximum fall in one day was 3.05 inches registered on the morning of the 12th.

J. H. SANDWITH, —Lieut.,

R.M.L.I.

CAMP, Yokohama, May 1st, 1874.

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COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

YOKOHAMA, MAY 2ND, 1874.

THE following arrivals of mails have occurred during the present week:—April 27th P. M. S. S. Co.'s *Great Republic*, from San Francisco; May 2nd M. M. Co.'s *Volga*, from Hongkong.

The P. & O. Co.'s steamer *Bombay*, sailed for Hongkong on the 29th ultimo.

The Shipment of Silk by the *Bombay* was 210 bales.

The P. & O. extra steamer *Massilia* has brought on the cargo of the *Agamemnon* from Hongkong.

Cotton Piece Goods.—The market is extremely dull and prices continue to tend downwards. Little if any demand exists for any class of Cotton Fabrics. We alter quotations as follows.

Cotton Yarns.—Share in the general depression and prices are easier than last quoted.

Woollen Fabrics.—Business in these goods is reported to be excessively flat. Some few sales have taken place, but these have been effected only by concessions on the part of importers. Prices are nominal.

Iron and Metals.—For the past week little, if any, business can be reported. The market is excessively dull and buyers are apparently afraid to enter into contracts. We do not alter quotations.

Sugar.—Further arrivals from Formosa have depressed our market, and prices are lower.

QUOTATIONS FOR ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

GOODS.	PRICES.	GOODS.	PRICES.
Cotton Piece Goods.			
Grey Shirtings:—			
7 lbs. 38½ yds. 39 in. per pce.	\$2.07 to \$2.15		
8 " " 44 " 45 in. "	2.45 to 2.55		
8 lbs. 4 to 8 lbs. 6 " ditto 39 in. "	2.40 to 2.55		
9 lbs. " " 44 in. "	2.85 to 2.95		
White Shirtings:—			
56 to 60 reed 40 yds. 35 in. nominal "	2.50 to 2.60		
64 to 72 " ditto " "	2.70 to 2.95		
T. Cloth:—6 lbs. " " "	1.60 to 1.65		
7 " " " "	1.90 to 2.00		
Drills, English—15 lbs. " " "	3.80 to 3.52½		
Handkerchiefs Assorted " " per doz.	0.45 to 0.80		
Brocades & Spots (White) " " per pce.	nominal.		
ditto (Dyed) " " "			
Chintz (Assorted) 24 yds. 30 in. "	1.50 to 1.80		
Turkey Reds 24 yds. 30 in. 24 3 lb. per lb.	0.90 to 1.00		
Velvets (Black) 35 yds. 22 in. nominal	7.50 to 9.00		
Victoria Lawns 12 yds. 42 in. " per pce.	0.95 to 1.00		
Taffethelass single west 12 yds 43 in. "	2.40 to 2.70		
ditto (double west) " "	2.70 to 2.95		
Cotton Yarns.			
No. 16 to 24 " " " per picul.	37.50 to 39.25		
" 28 to 32 " " " "	38.00 to 39.00		
" 38 to 42 " " small stock nom. "	42.00 to 45.00		
Woollens & Woollen Mixtures.			
Camlets SS 56 to 58 yds. 31 in Asstd. per pce	17.50 to 18.50		
ditto Black " " " "	17.00		
ditto Scarlet " " " "	19.00 to 20.00		
Lastings 30 yds. 31. " "	14.00 to 16.00		
Lustres & Orleans (figured) ditto " "	5.00 to 5.50		
Orleans 30 yds. 32 in. (plain) ditto "	4.50 to 5.00		
Italian Cloth 30 yards 31 inches per yd.	0.028 to 0.036		
WOOLLENS.—Continued.			
Sateens (Cotton) "	0.15 to 0.17		
Alpacas 42 yds. 31 in. " "	6.50 to 8.80		
Camlet Cords 30 yds. 31 in. " "	6.00 to 7.25		
Mouselines de laine, (plain) 80 to 31 in pryd.	0.15 to 0.20		
ditto (printed) " "	0.28 to 0.35		
Cloth, Medium & Broad 54 in to 64 in "	neglected.		
ditto Union 54 in to 56 in "			
Blankets " limited enquiry per lb.	0.36 to 0.40		
Metals and Sundries.			
Iron flat and round " " " per pel	4.00 to 4.50		
" nail rod " " " "	4.40 to 5.00		
" hoop " " " nominal " "	5.00		
" sheet " " " " "			
" wire " " " " "			
" pig " " " " "			
Lead " " " " "			
Tin Plates " " " " per box	Nominal.		
SUGAR. —Formosa in Bag " " " per picul.			
in Basket " " " nom. " "	3.80 to 4.00		
China No. 1 Ping-fah " "	3.70 to 3.75		
do. No. 2 Ching-pak " "	8.20 to 8.30		
do. No. 3 Ke-pak " "	7.70 to 8.00		
do. No. 4 Kook-fah " "	7.10 to 7.40		
do. No. 5 Kong-fuw " "	6.60 to 6.80		
do. No. 6 E-pak " "	5.90 to 6.30		
Swatow " " " " "	4.90 to 5.30		
Daitoong " " " " "	3.60 to 3.65		
Sugar Candy " " " " "	3.70 to 3.80		
Raw Cotton (Shanghai new) " "	9.50 to 11.00		
Rice " " " " "	14.25 to 14.50		
	2.75		

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COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

(Continued.)

Silk.—Since the 22nd ultimo, arrivals been 350 bales, mostly Oshiu. With the exception of a very few parcels the Hanks now on offer are of inferior quality and may be quoted from \$520 to \$560.

Deliveries are 475 piculs, a portion of which is, we hear, to be shipped on native account.

Letters received by the last mail make much comment on a telegram forwarded from this port to the Continent on the 10th March, in which Mybashi *fair medium* was quoted \$500. Such a fact cannot but create a painful surprise on this side, whatever may be the explanation of the error.

Telegrams dated Lyons, 25th April, advise a fall in price since the 14th March of nearly 10 per cent. Last year, on the 25th May, the silk-worms in Italy and France were between the first and second stage.

Tea.—Absence of Tea stocks has terminated business for the season 1873-74 and little or nothing will be done until the new crop comes on our market in fair supply.

Several musters (representing however no parcels of moment) have been shewn, and various settlements and offers have been made therefor; but these afford no basis for calculation as to what price our market will really open at and even the native dealers seem convinced of this. We believe that parcels ranging from ten to twenty-five piculs will be on hand next week, and for good leaf combined with quality \$50 to \$55 will be about the opening price.

The weather has been very favorable this season for the picking and curing of the first crop, and we may expect a yield better than the average.

EXPORTS.

GOODS.		PRICES.	LAID DOWN AND SOLD IN LONDON. Ex 6mos. at 4s.4d.	LAID DOWN AND SOLD IN LYONS. Ex. at 5.55 @ 6 mos	
Silk: —		per picul			
HANKS.	{ Maibashi and Shinshiu }	Extra none. ... Best ... Good ... Medium ... Inferior ...	nominal. \$610.00 to \$630.00 .. \$570.00 to \$590.00 .. \$500.00 to \$550.00 ..	23s. 10d. to 24s. 6d. 22s. 4d. to 23s. 1d. 19s. 10d. to 21s. 7d.	frs. 66 to frs. 69 frs. 62 to frs. 65 frs. 55 to frs. 61
O SHIU	Extra ... " Best ... " Good ... " Medium ... " Inferior	\$620.00 to \$650.00 .. \$530.00 to \$580.00 .. \$530.00 to \$580.00 ..	24s. 2d. to 25s. 8d. 20s. 11d. to 22s. 9d. 20s. 11d. to 22s. 9d.	frs. 67 to frs. 71 frs. 68 to frs. 63 frs. 68 to frs. 63
HAMATSEI	... SODAI	... Medium ...	\$420.00 to \$460.00 .. \$400.00 to \$440.00 ..	16s. 11d. to 18s. 4d. 16s. 2d. to 17s. 8d.	frs. 47 to frs. 51 frs. 45 to frs. 50
Tea: —					
Common ... Good Common ... Medium ... Good Medium ... Fine ... Finest ... Choice ... Choicest ...		Prices rule so irregularly. and the teas are of such doubtful grades, that it is impossible to give reliable quotations.			
Sundries: —					
Mushrooms ... Isinglass ... Sharks' Fins ... White Wax ... Bees Do. ... Cuttle fish ... Dried Shrimps ... Seaweed, ... Gallnut ... Tobacco ... Sulphur ... Wheat ... Shellfish ... Camphor ... Béche de Mer ... Ginseng, 50 to 100 pieces 100 to 200 "		\$36.00 to 43.00 .. \$30.00 to 35.00 .. \$20.00 to 40.00 .. \$13.00 to 15.00 .. \$4.00 to 50.00 .. \$10.50 to 11.50 .. \$14.00 to 16.00 .. \$ 1.00 to 3.20 .. None. .. \$ 6.50 to 12.00 .. \$ 2.40 to 2.90 .. \$ 1.60 to 1.85 .. \$17.00 to 30.00 .. \$14.00 to 16.00 .. \$35.00 to 50.00 .. \$ 2.85 to 5.00 .. \$ 2.00 to 3.25 ..			

MISCELLANEOUS.

Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation.

Paid-up Capital..... 5,000,000 Dollars.
Reserve Fund 1,000,000 Dollars.

COURT OF DIRECTORS.

Chairman—W. H. FORBES, Esq.

Deputy Chairman—Hon. R. ROWETT, Esq.

AD. ANDRE, Esq.	J. F. CORDES, Esq.
K. R. BELILIO ³ , Esq.	W. LEMANN, Esq.
A. F. HEARD, Esq.	THOMAS PYKE, Esq.
S. D. SASOON, Esq.	

CHIEF MANAGER.

HONGKONG..... JAMES GREIG, Esq.

MANAGERS.

SHANGHAI..... EWEN CAMERON, Esq.
YOKOHAMA..... T. JACKSON, Esq.
LONDON BANKERS.—LONDON AND COUNTY BANK.

BRANCHES AND AGENCIES.

HONGKONG.	FOOCHOW.
SHANGHAI.	HANKOW.
YOKOHAMA.	HIOGO.
BOMBAY.	AMOY.
CALCUTTA.	SAIGON.

YOKOHAMA BRANCH.

INTEREST ALLOWED

ON Current Deposit Accounts at the rate of 2 per cent. per Annum on the daily balance.

ON FIXED DEPOSITS:—

For 3 Months.....	3 per cent per Annum.
" 6 "	4 per cent. "
" 12 "	5 per cent. "

Local Bills Discounted.

CREDITS granted on approved Securities, and every description of Banking and Exchange Business transacted.

DRAFFTS granted on London, and the Chief Commercial places in Europe, India, Australia, America, China and Japan.

HERBERT COPE,
Acting Manager.

Yokohama, May 1, 1874.

NOTICE.

THE interest and responsibility of Mr. LEOPOLD KAHN in our firm ceased on the 30th April last, and Mr. CHARLES KAHN is this day admitted a partner.

REISS & Co.

Hongkong, China and Japan,

May 2, 1874.

w. 1 w. & o. 3 ins.

NOTICE.

THE interest and responsibility of Mr. COLGATE BAKER and Mr. HOFFMAN ATKINSON in our firm ceased on 31st December, 1873.

SMITH, BAKER & Co.
Yokohama, January 31, 1874. A. 24. 2ms.

NOTICE.

THE UNDERSIGNED is prepared to attend to the Landing, Clearing, or Shipping of Cargo from this Port, at Reasonable Rates.

CAPT. D. SCOTT.

No. 44.

Yokohama, August 3, 1872.

tf

MISCELLANEOUS.

MESSRS. BOURNE & CO.

WILL SELL BY

PUBLIC AUCTION,

At their Rooms, No. 70,
MAIN STREET,

(Unless Previously Disposed of by Private Contract.)

IN MAY NEXT.

ALL that very VALUABLE and DESIRABLE PROPERTY, known as 24A., Water Street, containing 513 Tsuboes as per Japanese Title and with the Buildings thereon consisting of a TWO STORIED DWELLING HOUSE with OUTHOUSES and STABLES.

Also,

The OFFICE and STONE GODOWN, both of which are TWO STORIED, the size of the latter is 90 feet by 40 feet or equal to 100 Tsuboes. All the Buildings have been recently examined and found in thorough repair and sound condition.

The Ground Rent is paid up to 31st January, 1874.

The Property can be viewed and full particulars obtained by applying on the Premises or to the

AUCTIONEERS.

Yokohama, March 10, 1874.

NOTICE.

M R. JAMES C. FRASER is admitted a Partner in our Firm from this date.

SAUNDERS, NEEDHAM & Co.

Liverpool, January 1, 1874.

M R. JAMES C. FRASER having become a Partner in the Firm of Messrs. SAUNDERS, NEEDHAM & Co., of Liverpool his interest in the Firm of JAMES C. FRASER & Co., is now represented by Messrs. SAUNDERS, NEEDHAM & Co.

(Signed) { JAMES C. FRASER.
{ JAMES P. MOLLISON.

Yokohama, January 1, 1874.

WE have this day admitted Mr. EVAN J. FRAZER to be a Partner in our Firm.

JAMES C. FRASER & Co.

Yokohama, January 1, 1874. F. 28.—dlw-w2m.

NOTICE.

WE have established a branch of our firm in HIOGO, under the management of

Mr. Carl Johann Wilhelm Braess, who has been admitted a partner in our firm at that port.

VAN OORDT & Co.
Yokohama, April 1, 1874. 1m.

NOTICE.

THE Undersigned have been appointed Agents at this Port for the
LIVERPOOL UNDERWRITERS ASSOCIATION.

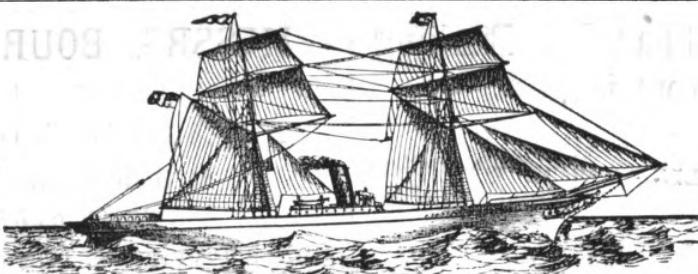
JAMES C. FRASER & Co.
Yokohama, April 7, 1874. 8ws.

Original from

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

MISCELLANEOUS.

IRON
STEAM
AND



SAIL-
ING
SHIPS.

COLE BROTHERS,

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE, ENGLAND,

Builders of all Classes of Iron Vessels up to the largest Dimensions.

TUGS, BARGES, &c.,

July 18, 1873.

IRON AND WOOD SHIPS REPAIRED.

52 ins.

CROSSE & BLACKWELL'S
CELEBRATED OILMEN'S STORES
ALL WARRANTED OF SUPERIOR QUALITY.

PICKLES, SAUCES, SYRUPS.
JAMS, IN TINS AND JARS.

ORANGE MARMALADE, TART FRUITS, DESSERT FRUITS
PONCONS, LISBON APRICOTS AND PEACHES.

MUSTARD, VINEGAR

FRUITS IN BRANDY AND NOYEAU.

POTTED MEATS AND FISH.

FRESH SALMON, OYSTERS AND HERRINGS.

KIPPERED SALMON AND HERRINGS.

HERRINGS A LA SARDINE.

PICKLED SALMON.

YARMOUTH BLOATERS.

BLACKWALL WHITEBAIT.

FRESH AND FINDON HADDOCKS.

PURE SALAD OIL.

SOUPS IN PINT AND QUART TINS.

PRESERVED MEATS IN TINS.

EAS, CARROTS, BEANS AND OTHER VEGETABLES
PRESERVED HAMS AND CHEESE.

PRESERVED BACON.

OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE SAUSAGES.

BOLOGNA SAUSAGES.

YORKSHIRE GAME PATES.

YORKSHIRE PORK PATES.

TONGUES, GAME, POULTRY.

PLUM PUDDINGS.

LEA AND PERRINS' WORCESTERSHIRE SAUCE.

Fresh supplies of the above and numerous other table delicacies may always be had from every Storekeeper.

CAUTION.

Jars and Bottles should invariably be destroyed when empty, to prevent the fraud of refilling them with native productions. Goods should always be examined upon delivery, to detect any attempt at substitution of articles of inferior brands. Every Cork is branded with Crosse & Blackwell's name.

CROSSE & BLACKWELL
PURVEYORS TO THE QUEEN.
SOHO SQUARE, LONDON.

At the Paris Exhibition of 1867, THREE Prize Medals were awarded to CROSSE & BLACKWELL, for the marked superiority of their productions.

Yokohama, May 27, 1874.

12ms.

BURGOYNE, BURBIDGES & Co.,
COLEMAN STREET, LONDON,
EXPORT DRUGGISTS,

MANUFACTURERS of every description of CHEMICAL, PHARMACEUTICAL, PHOTOGRAPHIC, and other PREPARATIONS, OIL PRESSERS, DISTILLERS OF ESSENTIAL OILS, DEALERS in Patent Medicines, SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS and Appliances, Glass Ware, Confectionery, Medical Books, and Shop Fittings, and every description of Druggists' Sundries, Paints, Colours, Dyes, &c., &c.

Upon application, Messrs. BURGOYNE, BURBIDGES & Co. will forward their Price Current, containing more than Twenty Thousand prices.

Messrs. BURGOYNE, BURBIDGES & Co. are thoroughly conversant with the Japan Markets, and are prepared to receive commission orders for any articles of British Manufacture, and having made this an important branch of their business, they are enabled to select the cheapest and best goods, securing the extremest discounts; they likewise receive consignments of produce.

Yokohama, June 21, 1873.

52ins.

BETTS'S CAPSULE PATENTS.

To prevent infringements, notice is hereby given, that BETTS'S name is on every Capsule he makes for the principal merchants in England and France, thus enabling vendor, purchaser, and consumer, not only to identify the genuineness of the Capsule, but likewise the contents of the vessel to which it is applied.

The LORD CHANCELLOR, in his judgment, said that the capsules are not used merely for the purpose of ornament, but that they are serviceable in protecting the wine from injury, and insuring its genuineness.

Manufactories:—1, Wharf-road, City-road, London, and Bordeaux, France.

Yokohama, 6th July, 1872.

12m.

CAUTION.

BETTS'S PATENT CAPSULES.

—:0:—

The public are respectfully cautioned that BETTS'S Patent Capsules are being infringed.

BETTS'S name is upon every Capsule he makes for the leading Merchants at home and abroad,

and he is the ONLY INVENTOR and SOLE MAKER in the United Kingdom.

Manufactories:—1, Wharf-road, City-road, London, and Bordeaux, France.

Yokohama, 6th July, 1872.

12m.